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"Hauling steel from the Great Lakes Seven Reasons Why GMCs to the Gulf, we find GMC's low-cost operation a vital factor because we must 'dead-head,' or return light, on • Cabs Tailored to Drivers' Needs all runs. Upon occasion we lease other • Easy Steering, Shifting, Braking make trucks, and performance comparisons show that GMC outranks them all. Our loads average 32,000-• Models for Every Hauling Job 40,000 pounds, and our GMCs are as

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Please send me your free booklet on
how to look better, feel better.

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Address		

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Artist Wally Richards didn't have to go far to find a model for this month's cover. The cute young lady is the daughter of his next door neighbor. She had no objections to receip of the seaw of the nad no objections to posing after she saw the Easter basket Mrs. Richards had pre-pared. The dyed eggs, shredded paper and jelly beans were real but chocolate rabbits were out of season and candy bars were sub-stituted. The rabbits you see in the painting are something Wally dreamed up to complete the feeling of Easter time.

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The American

EGIO

VOL. 48, NO. 4

your Magazine and paste it in the space provided. Always give your 1950 membership card number and both your new and your old address. Advisory Editor
Alexander Gardiner



What makes a fine car FINE,

Ford HAS!

*Compare Ford with the most expensive car on the road most expensive car



Ride for ride, it doesn't take its hat off to anybody! From the new front seat with non-sag springs and buoyant foamrubber cushion, to the hushed "Mid Ship" ride in the "sound-conditioned," heavy gauge steel "Lifeguard" body, you get comfort that's in a class by itself!

Power per pound, ah, there's the secret of that sweet Ford "feel"! The '50 Ford has a new 100 horse-power V-8, the same type engine used in America's finest cars, and it runs so very quietly you'll say: "It whispers while it works!"

Safety for safety... Ford takes the cup here, too, with those "King Size" Brakes that gentle you down to a full stop with 35% less pedal push! And those big windows give you a "look see," fore and aft, that's really something to cheer about!





Fine, yes, fine at low dollar price!

Just add up the things you call
"fine"—style, comfort, performance, safety—you get 'em all in the
'50 Ford plus another little item
big cars can't even claim, and that's
economy!

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A ployground where you can enjoy every outdoor sport. Swimming, fishing every doy in the year, comping, motor booting, conoeing, golf, tennis, orchery, horseback riding, hiking, mountoin climbing, motoring, or just plain reloxing; you'll find it in on ideal setting in Tennessee. In every section ore the kind of accommodotions you like at a price you like ta pay and everywhere genuine sauthern hospitality of the Tennessee brand.

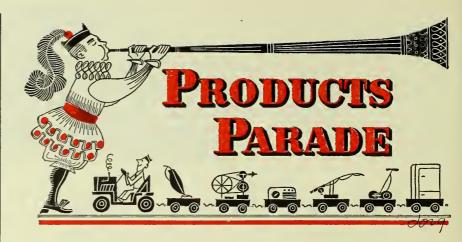
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DIVISION OF STATE INFORMATION

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A Division of the Department of Conservation



A sampling of items which are in process of development or are coming on the market. Mention of products in no way constitutes an endorsement of them, since in most cases they are described as represented by manufacturers.

CHECK AND DOUBLE CHECK. A check protector designed and priced for the small businessman, the housewife and others who can't afford expensive commercial machines has been announced by the Federal Pro-Check-Tor Co., 627 Grove St., Evanston, Ill. This company's device, the Pro-Check-Tor, foils check-raisers in two ways. It makes a fine perforation of the paper, over the payee's name and the amount, and it leaves an ink impression. Any crook can tell you that crime really doesn't pay when the check-writer takes this precaution. The compact device, with a "ten-mile" ink supply sells for \$3.95, and ink refills cost 25¢.



WHAT DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? The person who wants to score an "A" with the Garden Club will probably be interested in a line of colorful markers being introduced by Gift Crafters, Blue Springs, Mo. These markers show in full color the various flowers and vegetables you're raising—something like the colorful fronts of seed packages. The gimmick is, they're plastic, so they won't wilt and fade when they're left outdoors. They cost just \$1.50 a dozen, postpaid, and you can have your choice of "everything that grows."

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING DEPT. Here's a present you can buy for that thoughtless neighbor who shakes her dust mop outside so the dirt blows into your house. It's a plastic bag which can be hooked to door knobs, and it's big enough so a dust mop can be shaken inside it. The bag, of course, catches the dirt so it doesn't get all over the neighborhood. Called the Tidymaid, the gadget can be obtained from Tidymaid, P. O. Box 5566, Washington 16, D. C., for \$1.89 postpaid.

FOR BACKYARD GOLFERS. Now you can sharpen up your golf game indoors or in the backyard by means of an ingeniously perforated golf ball. The lightweight ball, made of Bakelite polyethylene, follows the same line of flight as a regulation ball when hooked, sliced or hit squarely, but it travels only about one-tenth as far. It will not mar interior walls, nor damage screens and windows, yet is tough, durable, resilient, and washable. Golfers say that while the new ball sounds and feels like a regulation ball when hit, its slower motion and shorter trajectory help disclose such errors as topping, smothering, hooking and



close such errors as topping, smothering, hooking and slicing. Made by Cosom Industries, 3520 E. 43 St., Minneapolis, Minn., they retail at 35¢ each or three for a dollar.



A HORSE FOR WORK OR PLAY. They've taken the old-fashioned sawhorse and made a sleek thoroughbred out of it in the new Trojan Folding Sawhorse. Unlike the heavy, clumsy sawhorse of yore, the Trojan folds into a compact unit 42 by 6 by 5½ inches, and by means of ingenious hinges and locking devices opens into a full-sized unit 42 inches long, 6 inches across the top and 24 inches high. The new device comes completely assembled. When opened it will sustain weights in excess of 1000 pounds. Closed it will fit in the back of a car so it can be hauled around for work or play. The Trojan is offered in pairs by the

Goosmann Manufacturing Co., 335 Indiana Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Mich., and the price is \$11.85 a pair prepaid.

FLAVOR SAVER. Housewives will be interested in a new airtight container for refrigerator use, being made by the Buckeye Molding Co., 631 Wayne Ave., Dayton 10, Ohio. Made of transparent Bakelite, the containers come with flexible covers which grip the rim of the container in two places around the circumference. Dead air between these two ring seals keeps flavor in and contaminating odors out. The cover peels off easily and the seal is renewed merely by pressing it on again. The plastic is odorless, tasteless and resistant to most chemicals. The containers come in two sizes. The six-ounce size retails at two for 25¢, and the 12-ounce size retails for 20¢.



A GOOD RULE IS TO STICK TO IT. With this sentiment in mind, Legionnaire Ross Chidester, of 112 Tenth St., Watkins Glen, N. Y., invented an ingenious gadget that he has just put on the market. His invention is called the Stik-E-Ruler, and consists of five 12-inch laminated cellulose rulers in a compact roll, each with its own adhesive. When you want to mark off, say, a workbench or a sewing machine, you simply unroll a ruler from the roll, press it down and there it stays. The price is 39ϕ a roll.

SWEET SMELLING RUBBER. To make rubber products smell—and sell—better, the Du Pont Company has developed a new series of odorants which are said to give the scent of fresh mountain air to a wide range of sulfurous, smoky-smelling rubber items. Among the products in which they'll be used are foam rubber pillows, mattresses and seat cushions; latex-bonded upholstery and rug-backing fibers; dress shields, gloves, girdles, hot water bottles and toys. The odorants, available for both natural and synthetic rubber, are being made under the trade-mark Alamask, and they mark the Du Pont Company's formal entry into the industrial aromatics business.

PICTURE YOURSELF IN A HUNDRED PLACES. Now you can be just like Washington, Lincoln and all the other great people who are pictured on stamps. For only \$2.00 you can now have your favorite photo reproduced on a hundred gummed stamps, the same size as postage stamps. The concern making these Photo-stamps, as they are called, is the Croyden Company, 516 Fifth Ave., New York City 18, and they can reproduce the stamps from any snapshot, photograph or negative. The photo or negative is returned unharmed. Incidentally, the stamps don't have to be of you. You can have them made of your home, children, pets — even your mother-in-law. The Croyden folks don't mention this, but their stamps might come in handy later in the year for those who want to make unusual Christmas cards.

NEW WALKIE-TALKIE. A new FM 2-way pack radio has been announced by Motorola, Inc., of Chicago, for use by law enforcement agencies, fire protection departments, construction companies, forestry services, and similar operators of extremely mobile 2-way radio equipment. This unit incorporates a 16-tube receiver and an 8-tube transmitter into a compact 19 pound radio station, 10½ by 13 by 4-5/16 inches, that can be hand carried, back carried, or used as a semi-fixed installation. The Motorola Pack Set, designed for operation in either the 25-50 mc. band or the 152-174 mc. band, is available in three versions: single frequency

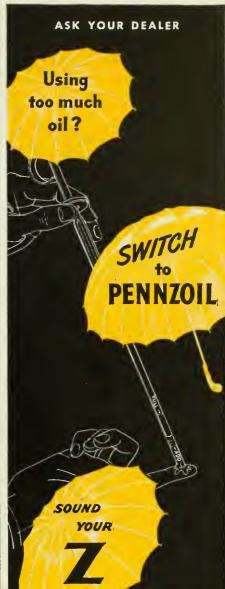


transmitter and receiver; two-frequency transmitter, single receiver; and dual transmitter, single receiver. All are complete with batteries, antenna and microphone, and range in price from \$380 to \$478.

PRECISION OILER. Anyone who has ever tried to get a tiny amount of oil on a hard-to-reach spot will appreciate a new device called the Oilette, being offered for a dollar by Malko-Wortell, Inc., 3524 N. Halstead St., Chicago 13. Resembling a fountain pen, this gadget has a specially designed needle nozzle to get the oil into inaccessible spots. Fingerpress control automatically feeds the exact amount of oil needed. The Oilette has a transparent plastic barrel which can be easily and quickly filled with light oil.

PERSONAL CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT. Now you can carry your own cleaning kit so you can remove spots and stains from clothing before they get a chance to set. The wherewithal is a good-looking two-inch aluminumm tube called Cleanette, designed by Legionnaire Harry Collins of Milwaukee. The gadget has a round solid wool felt applicator that holds non-inflammable cleaning fluid. Any kind of cleaning fluid can be used and refilling is easy. The price is 79¢ and Collins' address is 424 N. 35th St., Milwaukee, Wisc.

When writing to manufacturers concerning items described here kindly mention that you read about them in The American Legion Magazine



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The American Legion Magazine • April, 1950 • 5





THE CRIME OF EXCELLENCE

Remember when certain baseball fans used to holler: "Break up the Yankees, they're too good."? Nobody broke up the Yankees, though the old Yankees gave way to new in the run of time. Well, things got tough for the Joliet (Illinois) high school band some years back. The band got so good nobody could beat it and finally the day came when the Joliet kids were given the National High School Band Trophy outright and asked not to compete any more. Too good.

But tle kids grew up and went to war and came back and joined Harwood Post #5 in Joliet and became an American Legion band. Now they have national competition again and for four years running they have won the Legion's national band competition at our National Conventions. We say, beat 'em if you can, and we say any band that can win the biggest championship in the land not once, not twice, but four times, ought to have its story told. So we're telling it. Read They've Got the Championship Habit, page 26.

YE OLD HOODOO

Life magazine and The Saturday Evening Post are supposed to own a special hoodoo for teams and individuals in the sports world. Let either of them devote an article to an outstanding athlete or team and that man or team will suddenly develop two left feet and become a doormat for all opposition. In case you haven't noticed, we mix little of that poison in our ink too. We wrecked the Illinois basketball team a few years ago by blueprinting their path to the national championship in advance. We built up Roland Sink of Southern California as America's coming mile runner, and he stopped winning races the moment your mailman dropped that issue in your mailbox. Ellsworth Vines, the former tennis champ, was coming along like a house afire as a professional golfer. Alas! We devoted an article to him just before he reached the top of golfdom, and that stopped him in his tracks. Now, two years later, Vines is just short of the top in most big tournaments - which is exactly where he was before we turned our secret ink weapon on him. We really gave Curt Simmons a blast in these pages when the former Legion Junior baseballer was taken on as a Philly pitcher and given a huge bonus for signing. Curt may become a great pitcher yet, but for two years sportswriters have wailed that if Simmons had only come through, the Phillies would have been in the fight for the National League pennant. He has been a little wild, it seems.

Maurice McDermott, Boston Red Sox pitcher, has been wild in his time too. He's quite a character. But it is with a

good deal of confidence that we introduce you to Maurice on page 16, in the article The Human Rifle of Fenway Park. You see, Maurice has been coming along even though Life magazine put the whammy on him when he was a rookie in 1948, and we can't resist the temptation to see if a man who can survive Life's hex can survive ours too. We say Maurice will do all right in spite of our article in this issue. After all, we've run articles about Teddy Atkinson, jockey; Frank Leahy, Notre Dame football coach; Calumet Farm, powerhouse racing stable; Ben Hogan (back in '46 we picked him to be the top postwar golfer) and quite a few others who still had their strength left when we were done with them. So play ball, McDermott!

BATTLEGROUND

The main target of communism in this country has been organized labor. This has led a lot of people to believe that organized labor is just naturally communistic. But as National Commander George N. Craig points out in his article Labor Sets an Example, page 14, communism has fastened itself on Labor more than Labor has fastened itself on communism, and actually the most realistic battle against communism in this land has been fought for years by Labor itself. Like Pearl Harbor and the Maginot Line and Dunkerque, Labor is the point of enemy attack in the cold war and that is where the enemy has made his greatest successes. But it is in Labor, too that the most blood has been spilled in defense. Though some of the defenders have been captured, the most casualties and desertions are always suffered in the front lines. It is simply a fact that if there is communism in Labor there is also more opposition to communism there than elsewhere, as Commander Craig indicates.

WE ALSO PRESENT

What's New in Vacations by Joe Whitley, page 11. With all due modesty, we claim that this round up of hotels and other accommodations for the motoring public is as helpful a vacation guide as you are apt to find this spring.

Have We Licked Rheumatism? by our favorite medical writer, Dr. J. B. Rice, page 24. This is the story of cortisone, the wonder drug for rheumatism or arthritis, up to date, with a reminder that serious problems are yet to be solved. Cortisone is almost unique in the modern "miracle" drug field in that the discovery of the medicine led to an understanding of the disease. Doctors generally admit that they were all wet in their ideas about what arthritis is until cortisone, by healing it, showed the way to explaining it.

Gimmicks That Pay Off, by George Waltz, Jr., page 20. Yes, by keeping abreast of new inventions and services you may find a way to make extra money right around home. At the bottom of it all lies sound judgment as to what kind of new services your community will support.

And on page 28 you will find the behindthe-scenes story of the battleship Missouri's trouble on a Chesapeake mudbank.



Whatever you plan to do this summer be sure your battery won't let you down

Time moves fast... and there's always so much to do during the last minute's rush. Give a thought to your battery now. Wait too long and it may let you down when you're far from home. Don't take a chance! Let the Exide dealer give your battery a complete check-up today. It

takes but a short while...costs you nothing.

Remember, a single starting failure can be far more costly than the little extra you pay for a trustworthy Exide Battery.



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FROM A WAR BRIDE

I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoy your magazine.

I enjoy it just as much as my husband does. As soon as it comes, we settle down in an easy chair and read it together.

It started me wondering if there were other English war brides, like myself, who read your magazine. I am sure there are.

I would love to get in touch with other English girls, or any other war brides who are far away from their homeland, for exchanging correspondence with them would bring home so much closer.

If my letter should happen to get printed maybe other G.I. brides will see my address and drop me a line.

This might not be the right place to write such a letter as this, but then I have really nothing to Sound Off! about. I just like your magazine.

Mrs. Kathleen M. Williams P. O. Box 221 Blackville, S. C.

IN PRAISE OF V.A.

In these days of much criticism of government agencies, I think that when one agency does an outstanding job, it should be brought to the public attention. The Veterans Admin., through their Farm Training Program has 25 veterans in this small town of Winlock, Wash. (pop. 800) taking the training. In the past 15 months every veteran without exception, through the training and advisement of the Regional Office in Seattle has enlarged or improved his farm.

James Deans Winlock, Wash.

REALISTIC BUDGETING

My wife and I got a good laugh after looking over the Budget Chart which appeared on Page 50 of the January 1950 issue of the magazine. Just a glance at it would tell anybody that only a bunch of uniformed bankers would attempt to compile such an asinine chart.

In the first place, they didn't even take into consideration the very important item of doctor bills. One visit to a doctor by anybody in any of those income groups would knock that budget into a cockeyed hat. My wife and I have been married five years, and we are expecting our first child next month. If it wasn't for the fact that she worked during the first four years of our marriage, and we saved most

of what she earned, we wouldn't have our heads above water today; and I might add, the margin is very slim.

Another reason that makes this chart so ridiculous is the fact that lower income families have to spend more money for food and clothing, because in most cases they are doing manual labor while those in the higher income brackets, are generally sitting behind desks in offices all day.

We would like to respectfully suggest that some of these so-called bankers try to live on any of these salaries that they have quoted, and see just how much they are able to save. At least, let them be realistic about the whole matter.

Berman E. Deffenbaugh, Jr. San Francisco, Calif.

IT WAS PURE FANTASY

A Legionnaire asks if my "atom" story "Rebellion on the Moon" (December ALM) could give away secret information.

I assured him that nothing in that story could possibly be of any military use to any enemy of the United States. I have had some ten years military service myself, and you may be sure that I would never under any circumstances offer anything for publication which could possibly give aid or comfort to our enemies. There is nothing in the story even slightly secret.

Robert A. Heinlein Los Angeles, Calif.

VETERANS AND CRIME

The nation's newspapers have been playing up every crime or serious accident wherein a war veteran is involved. It seems to me that since these men and boys are civilians the fact they served during war should be to their credit and not be played up.

A small percentage of the young veterans were "gold-bricks" and guardhouse inmates and gave very little honorable service to their country or their buddies, during the war. But the percentage was small.

James Perona

Blanford, Indiana

SALUTE TO MANAGERS

Little recognition has been given to the managers of American Legion Junior Baseball teams. But believe me, they decorve it

Pre-season preparations are numerous. (Continued on page 60)

ECHO The same ECHO SPRING Straight Kentucky Bourbon FULL FOUR (4) YEARS OLD "ECHO" ... KENTUCKY ANSWERS YOUR CALL AIGHT BOURBON WHISKE FOR FINE KENTUCKY ATURALLY GOOD! STRAIGHT BOURBON ECHO SPRING DISTILLING COMPANI 4 YEARS OLD Today's Best Kentucky Bourbon Buy!

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A money saver for old cars, a must for new cars — Custom-Made Havoline is available today from your local Texaco Dealer, the best friend your car ever had. Change today!

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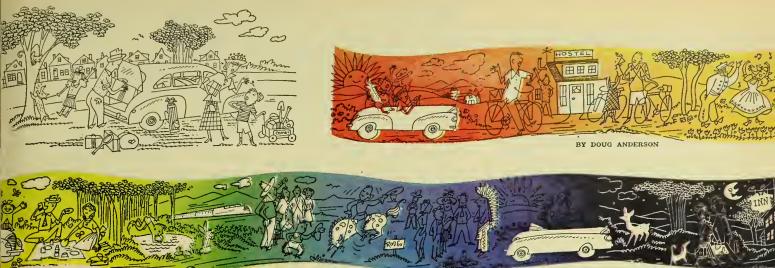
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YOU GET:

Easier starting
Smoother performance
More power, more
gasoline miles
Better lubrication
Longer engine life



What's New in VACATIONS

This year the people who cater to tourists are going all-out to give you value. But if you're wise you'll start planning now

By JOE WHITLEY

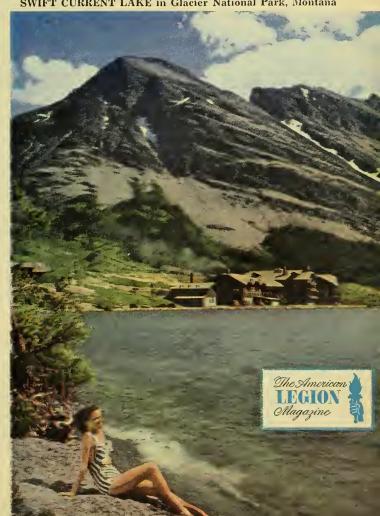
LANNING a vacation this year? Well, we've a buyer's market again and there's pie in the sky if you'll learn the where's, when's and how's before you start sending those "Having a wonderful time. Wish you were here" cards.

Foreign competition has revived those "See America First" slogans. With States and cities feuding among themselves for your vacation dollar and airlines, railroads, bus companies and shipping lines offering tours that include hotel accommodations, sightseeing and transportation at a single price you can, by shopping around, find practically anything you want at any price level.

Are you the rugged type? You can swim, fish, camp out and see the beauty of nature in one of 28 national parks, in most cases for free. Or you can hike or bicycle over Swiss Alps-type mountain trails and sleep in American Youth Hostels for a few cents a night. If you want all-out luxury there are suites in swank resorts for \$10,000 per season.

Last year, according to the American Hotel Association, the average American spent about \$160 for his two weeks' vacation. This year you can, by making arrangements now, get more for your money than at any time since before the war.

First, remember that the best buy in any section is in the "off season." Since 75 per cent of Americans vacation during July and August, prices and crowds in most summer resort sections increase sharply during this time. Vacations in April, May, June, September and October, however, offer the same accommodations, better service, less congestion and usually, cheaper rates. If you are set for July or August why not invesSWIFT CURRENT LAKE in Glacier National Park, Montana





FROM a glass-walled room adjoining the hotel pool, visitors at The Town House, Los Angeles, get this view of swimmers in action



FOR INDIANS? No, tourists. It's a motel near Orlando, Fla.



KEEP ONE EYE on the calendar and the other on a map, and you can plan to take in such big events as the Tulip Festival in Holland, Michigan

(continued) What's New in Vacations

tigate a "winter resort?" In Miami Beach, Florida, for instance, the average summer temperature is only a few degrees higher than in New York City, but where you often pay \$45 a day for winter accommodations, the summer average is only \$2.95!

Recently the building of reasonablypriced small outpost inns has increased and the hotel industry is now spending more than two billion dollars, an average of \$120,000 for every hotel in the nation, in a modernization program. As a result they offer things that, a few years ago, would have sounded fantastic.

At the Terrace Plaza in Cincinnati, Ohio, for instance, you can touch a button and a wall glides from the ceiling changing your room into a suite. Press another and your bed is transformed into a davenport. At the Netherlands Plaza, in the same city, they have machines that automatically park your car, permitting you to keep your keys in your pocket. The new twenty-million-dollar Shamrock Hotel in Houston, Texas, has television in every room and other such innovations are giving new hotels that Arabiannights look.

The luxury hotels are not the only ones that offer new features and services. Such places as the El Rancho Hotel in Sacramento, California, give you a break on tipping. Although there is a complete staff, the clerk will, if you like, direct you to your bungalow where you can park and unload such baggage as you need. The St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, was the first of many to establish a separate registration desk for motorists. Here you can drive up, register and be whisked to your room in a private elevator without having to walk through the lobby in travel-wrinkled clothing.



THESE GIRLS are roughing it in comfort at the Square G Ranch, Jackson Hole, Wyo.



COLOR PHOTOS BY SHOSTAL AND HY PESKIN

And the Statler Hotels are eliminating the waiting-in-line headache. During the summer, a pretty girl meets your car and registers you. If there are no vacancies she will direct you to another hotel within your price range.

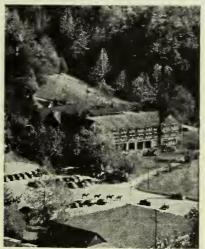
You'll now find many places that entertain the kids. The Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, for example, takes over, 24 hours a day. They have a nursery, child guidance specialists, playgrounds, zoo and children's dining room. Even many small hotels now furnish baby-sitters. And inns are now taking over the teen-agers. Coke-bars are common. The Mountain Top Club. Chittenden, Vermont, offers campfires, sing-songs and steak suppers. The Tides Inn, Irvington, Virginia, furnishes a yacht for boat trips, swimming parties and picnics. In Hollywood the



DON'T OVERLOOK such famed winter resorts as Sarasota Beach, Florida, when planning a summer vacation. They offer a lot for little money



TO MANY AMERICANS this makes a complete EYE-FILLING scenery is a vacation vacation. Lucky man and unlucky salmon



"must." Here's what you get in the are in the Columbia River, Washington rugged mountain country of Tennessee

Knickerbocker takes your starry-eyed daughter on a tour of the film capital.

To charm your wife many hotels, such as the El Cortez in San Diego, California, have regular style shows and in Dallas, Texas, the Neiman-Marcus specialty shop imports internationally-known designers to show off at weekly fashion shows at the Baker Hotel.

Among the unusual things for you are hotels like The Inn in Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania, that have their own well-stocked fishing streams, and the Gadsden Hotel, Douglas, Arizona, which will even take you hunting for mountain lions. A guide and all equipment are furnished and if you don't kill a lion it doesn't cost you a dime!

To complete the "family" atmosphere idea more than 1,500 American hotels now welcome your dog. The Gaines Research Foundation, 250 Park Avenue, New York City, has a catalogue listing such inns that is available for a ten-cent mailing fee.

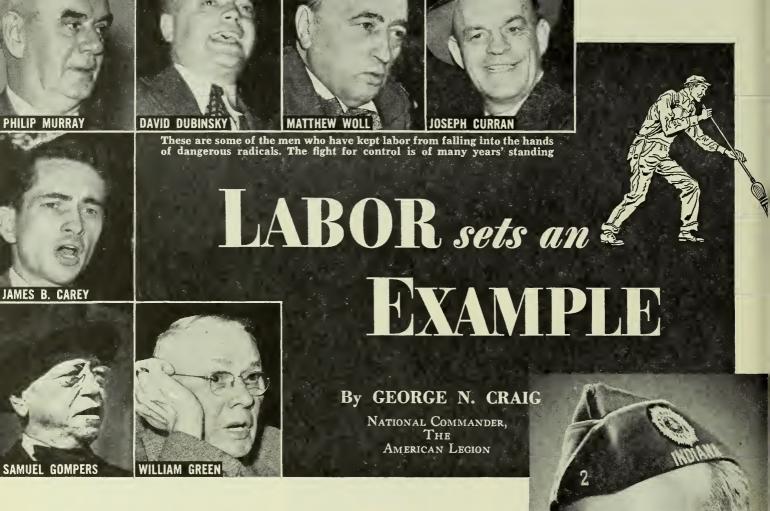
Hotels are also going all-out to assist romance. The Mission Inn, Riverside, California, has its Chapel of St. Francis (non-sectarian) which is full of autographs of great fliers and air service badges and has been the scene of thousands of weddings of American servicemen. The Cloisters, Sea Island, Georgia, where Vice President Barkley spent his honeymoon recently, offers free champagne breakfasts for all newlyweds and, if you're just hitched, the Ponte Verde Inn, Ponte Verde Beach, Florida, will give you a champagne supper. At the Last Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, there are a minister and organist on call 24 hours a day for weddings at the inn's "Little Church of the West."

For city slickers Farm Vacations and Holidays, an (Continued on page 41)





MOTORISTS are finding such innovations as this pool at a Los Angeles motor court



LONG AGO THE WORKINGMAN LEARNED AT FIRST HAND THE MEANING OF COMMUNISM. THAT'S WHY, THROUGH HIS UNIONS, HE HAS FOUGHT SO HARD TO GET THE COMMIES OFF HIS NECK

VERY ANGRY MAN faced a great convention in Cleveland a few months ago. "They are lying out of their mouths," he roared, "they are lying out of the pits of their dirty bellies - and they know it! - they know it!-they know it!" CIO President Phil Murray was completing his report to the convention recommending the expulsion from the CIO of one of its largest affiliates, the communist-infested United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union with approximately 450,000 dues-paying members. Murray's Scots' ire had been ground to a fine edge by years of communist skullduggery, slanders, insults, and doublecrossing. As Murray sat down Chairman Rieve called for the ayes and nays on the question of expelling the U.E. The ayes won with a thunderous ma-

jority. The long-awaited purge of Stalinists in the CIO was under way.

Later that same day the communist-dominated Farm Equipment Workers Union which had insolently defied CIO directives to merge with the United Auto Workers, found themselves on the outside looking in. Before it adjourned the CIO convention ordered trials and hearings for nine other affiliated internationals which bowed low toward Moscow each morning before starting their legitimate union business.

Many younger Legionnaires are probably of the erroneous impression that this CIO housecleaning marks the first positive steps by American organized labor to do something practical and tangible about the menace of Moscow's Fifth Column in this coun-

try. Nothing could be further from the truth. Organized labor in this country has waged an unrelenting and bitter war against the bolshies almost as long as the Legion's own fight against subversion. Capture of the American labor movement was always a project dear to Lenin's heart. As early as August, 1918, less than ten months after the bolshevik seizure of power in Russia, Lenin had the time and interest to sit down amid the distractions of revolution and consolidation of power to write his famous "Letter to American Workers."



In this letter he told American union men "American revolutionary, proletarians are destined precisely now to play an especially important role as irreconcilable foes of American imperialism, which is the newest, strongest, and latest to participate in the world-wide slaughter of the nations for the division of capitalist profits." Most of Lenin's letter was a defense and explanation of what the Russian bolsheviks were doing, but he urged American workers to follow their example and to overthrow their own bourgeoisie. The Russian Soviets were invincible because the world proletarian revolution was invincible. The tempo of the revolution might be a bit slower in America but it would come to America, too, in a matter of a few years, Lenin wrote.

Lenin and Trotsky turned their attention to American workers as soon as they had liquidated the last of their radical and labor opposition in Russia in 1921 with the armed crushing of the starving Petrograd strikers and the massacre of 30,000 Kronstadt sailors who came to the defense of the workers. These two successful plotters of the Bolshevik seizure of power in wartorn and demoralized Russia had learned well the lesson "that it is impossible to accomplish a social revolution outside of the unions or against their will." Lozovsky, presently a Deputy Foreign Minister of the U.S.S.R., enunciated this revolutionary law as far back as 1920. Lenin himself admitted "the Revolution could not have lasted two weeks without the aid of the unions." Twenty-eight years later the Czech communists again demonstrated the validity of this "law" when they used armed workers' "action committees" in their 1948 seizure of power even though the police and army were already in their hands.

Benjamin Gitlow, former General Secretary of the C. P. U.S.A., and a founder of the party, testified that as far back as 1922 Moscow sent over \$50,000 in cash for the specific job of unseating John L. Lewis as president of the United Mine Workers and taking over that strategic union. By 1923, or before the American branch of the Communist International had dared to emerge above ground, New York furriers, clothing workers, and other A.F.L. unions began to be plagued

ONE of Christoffel's "achievements" was the long-drawn-out Allis-Chalmers strike

A.F.L. unions began to be plagued with the red itch. The communists received orders to pose as "liberals" and "progressives" and to worm their way into the American Federation of Labor unions "to bore from within."

Samuel Gompers, then president of the A. F. of L., was a seasoned veteran in the endless war against trade union radicalism and politics. Even before the turn of the century Gompers had locked horns with the redoubtable and brilliant revolutionary Marxist, Daniel De Leon, who long before Lenin had entertained similar revolutionary hopes and plans for American labor. Gompers bested De Leon and America's own "Lenin" died a lonely and embittered old man in 1915.

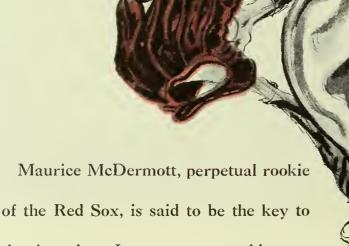
Just about this time the Industrial Workers of the World made their unsuccessful bid for power under Big Bill Haywood, but it collapsed when he and nearly a hundred of his followers were found guilty of wartime sedition in 1921. Haywood jumped bail and found asylum in the Soviet Union. Presumably on his advice the Trade

Union Educational League was brought into being here under William Z. Foster the following year. To help them out Lenin wrote a special chapter in his now classic "Left Wing Communism - an Infantile Disorder" entitled "Should revolutionaries work in reactionary unions?" The Leninist answer was an emphatic "Yes, by any and all means." When communists were thrown out of unions for their "boring within" tactics, Lenin ordered them to get back in again and if necessary "to resort to all sorts of stratagems, artifices, illegal methods, to evasions and subterfuge so as to get into the unions, to remain in them, and to carry on communist work within them at all costs." Lenin's original Russian, incidentally, was toned down by his American translators as too violent and provocative.

Some of these communist subterfuges and artifices have already been made the subject of two American Legion Magazine articles by Karl Baarslag more than two years ago. Other of Lenin's "illegal methods" were no child's play or harmless monkeyshines merely intended to deceive or befuddle an enemy. The lowest depths of subhuman cunning and ruthlessness were exhausted to find ways and means of destroying and "liquidating" those (Continued on page 39)

The HUMAN RIFLE

of Fenway Park



the American League pennant this year

By ED FITZGERALD

F RING LARDNER were alive today, and he happened to see Maurice McDermott pitch for the Boston Red Sox, he would probably blink his eyes and decide somebody was playing a trick on him.

Pitcher McDermott, a gangling 21-year-old kid with the physique of a lead pencil and the wide-eyed innocence of a hick closing a deal for the Brooklyn Bridge, looks as though he had walked right out of the pages of one of Lardner's famous stories of odd characters in baseball.

Most baseball writers believe that Maurice McDermott, taking a regular turn as pitcher, is what the Red Sox need to be sure of the 1950 American League pennant—though many of his peculiarities and distinctions have little or nothing to do with winning baseball games.

McDermott is young. He is skinny. He is perpetually hungry. He can be terrifyingly wild as a pitcher, and has already helped set an American League record for most bases on balls in one

regular nine-inning game.

He is the beloved of the bobby soxers. Life's editors thought his portrait so intriguing that they once published a full-page photo of him in the locker room as their Picture of the Week. In the photo, McDermott's sweatshirt hung loosely over his spare-ribbed frame. His cap was pulled tight over jug ears. And on his boyish, freckled face was etched the goofiest grin ever recorded by a camera.

But baseball's experts have faith in Maurice McDermott because today he throws the fastest ball of all living

major-league pitchers and he has slowly been getting more of his throws over the plate. And the knowledge that his lightning pitches may be wild has a subduing effect on batters.

Take the case of Mc-Dermott's teammate, Ted Williams. The priceless



Red Sox slugger loves batting practice. Williams was taking his cuts against McDermott one day when Maurice, the human pretzel, wound up and flung his high, hard one straight at Ted's handsome head. Williams went into the dirt like a mole. When it was safe to get up, Ted's face was white. He turned from the plate and made for the dugout. "To hell with this," muttered the man who is always trying to get a few extra licks in batting practice. "It ain't worth it."

Just where the scrawny young

struck out 144 batters during the season, which helped compensate for the 105 men he walked. In 1947, he led the American Association in strikeouts with 136 and had an earned run average of 2.86.

Though he was still terribly wild at times, the Red Sox were encouraged by reports on his attitude, which was one of burning ambition and tremendous good humor. That meant there was hope that he could learn control.

Anxious for a closer look at McDermott, Red Sox officials ordered him to

fired that ball in there with all his might. He was really picking up speed now, and when he gave them his Sunday pitch it was something to see. It would have been absolutely wonderful if he just could have gotten the ball over (or at least near) the plate. But he couldn't, and he lost ignominiously and added eleven walks to Harris' seven for a record-tying eighteen by one team in a nine-inning game.

He was still as wild as a young deer when Joe McCarthy sent him in as a relief man against the Yankees before a night-game crowd of 70,941 on June 29th. In two innings, Maurice gave up two runs on a walk, a two-base wild pitch, a passed ball, and a home run by Tommy Henrich.

Back he went to Scranton, where, on July 18, he lost his first start of the season for the Miners by a 2-1 score. (He lost five games by one run that year.) But he still had that big fast



fire a ball with astonishing speed and you wonder what keeps the momentum of his follow-through from carrying his wispy six-foot-two, 162pound frame right off the mound.

This year will be McDermott's third in major leagues, though he has yet to stay with the Red Sox for a full season. The team paid him \$5,000 for signing during his senior year in high school in 1945. When that act barred him from finishing the season with St. Patrick's High in Elizabeth, he quit school and reported for duty. The Sox put him in their farm system, where for three years he bounced around, mostly at Scranton, Pa., though sometimes at Louisville, Ky.

Reports from the minor leagues to Red Sox headquarters at Fenway Park in Boston characterized their youthful scarecrow as a sober, ambitious, naive fellow with a good curve, an incredible fast ball and very little control. In 1946, he pitched a no-hit game for Scranton against Albany, and picture was taken.

McDermott started the regular 1948 season with the Red Sox and stayed with them for three months, long enough to pitch a lot of batting practice, get a bundle of tips from the coaches and the veteran players on the squad, admire Ted Williams from a distance, and collaborate with Mickey Harris in tying the American League record for the most bases on balls in a single nine-inning game.

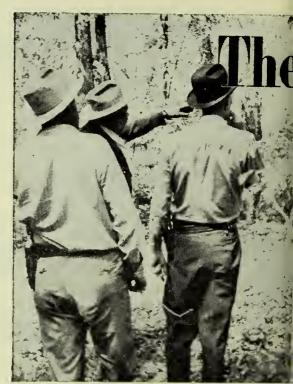
That little trick was accomplished on May 20, 1948, in a game against the Cleveland Indians. Mickey Harris had started the game and walked seven men in an inning and a third. McDermott relieved him.

It was Maurice's big chance and he really tried. He knew he looked too young to be let out alone at night, much less entrusted with a majorleague pitching assignment, and he was determined to prove he could handle the job. The bony left arm cranked, his spindly legs reared back, and he ball and, more and more, he began to blow it past the hitters. On August 14, he beat Hartford, 9-4, and struck out twelve men. On August 16, he struck out thirteen Utica batters but lost, 1-0, on a wild pitch. If he had begun to doubt his ability then, if he had quit on himself and decided that he never would be able to control his speed, he would not have worn a major league uniform again. But Mac put all his trouble behind him. He was concentrating on one thing; he wanted to get back up with the Red Sox.

He liked that life up there. He liked the comfortable trains and the good hotels, the expensive meals and the beautiful ball parks. That was the life for him, and all he had to do was make that little white ball go where he aimed it.

He beat Elmira, 2-1, and struck out thirteen men. He accepted a bronze trophy as "New Jersey's Outstanding Juvenile Athlete." He took the mound against Utica (Continued on page 58)





THESE OFFICERS in East Texas are certain there's : still somewhere in this area, but they're not sure when

Moonshining is now a mass production industry, so be careful what you drink and where you get it

It was then that I got a bee in my bonnet. I took a bottle to the chemical laboratory of the Alcohol Tax Unit of the Treasury Department and asked them to check it. The findings left me gasping:

It was moonshine whisky!

Illicit liquor in 1950 Anno Domini? Sold by a bootlegger in New York City 16 long years after Prohibition had been given a proper burial? It sounded ridiculous but there it was . . . and it started me asking some questions which led to a month-long investigation. And this is what I found:

Bootlegging and moonshining are riding high, wide and handsome in the nation today on a scale which is rapidly approaching the turbulent days of the dry era. Out of the graveyards where Al Capone, Dutch Schultz, Frankie Uale and other rum-running

By LESTER DAVID

Anytime somebody says he will let me have something wholesale, I'm ready to do business. So when this natty guy whom I've seen a few times around the office says to me, casual like, that he can get me a case of a well-known brand of scotch whisky, minus the retail markup, I'm all ears.

Next day he sends a case to the

house and I pay for it, 20 percent less than store-bought stuff. Then I open a bottle and toss off a jiggerful. Somehow, it doesn't taste quite right. I'm no expert, so I think nothing of it. But a few nights later a friend of mine, who can tell, informs me that if that scotch is the brand it says on the bottle, he will personally lap up a river of it from the Battery to City Hall.

BOOTLEGGER IS BACK





BETWEEN a clump of trees they notice this innocent-looking mound of earth sprinkled with dead leaves and pine needles

DIGGING into the mound produced this! Barrels at right hold mash, and condensation takes place in the barrels at the left

titans of unlamented memory lie buried has risen the new bootlegger—smarter, slicker, more scientific and businesslike than his hoodlum forebears. He is flooding the country with bootleg hootch which is giving a massive headache, not only to those who guzzle the stuff, but to the enforcement authorities, the legal liquor industry, the United States Treasury and the taxpayer.

Although much of the "panther sweat" or "popskull scotch" brewed today is distributed to customers who know it's moonshine and don't care, thousands of gallons are sold each day to unsuspecting customers like me—and you—in a variety of ways.

One is the way I got stuck. The fellow tells you he knows someone who has just gone out of business and has a few cases left. Or he was just fired as clerk of a liquor store and has some cases, all paid for he assures you, but he needs the dough. Or he's gotten his hands on some whisky smuggled in by foreign seamen. Nine chances out of ten you'll never know the difference.

Another channel of distribution is through an unscrupulous clerk in your local liquor store. You walk in, ask for a bottle of rye. Perhaps you shake your head a bit at the price. What with mounting taxes and costs, legal liquor comes high these days. The clerk whispers that he knows a fellow who sells the same thing by the gal-

lon or case, and cheaper. You say why not, and next day the fellow pays you a visit. He's a bootlegger and the clerk gets a couple of dollars from him for every name he supplies. You? You get moonshine.

Still another way you might toss off a few bolts of mountain dew and not realize it until you start breathing fire is at a roadside juke joint or hideaway tavern, particularly in the south or midwest, where the owners have no compunction against refilling a popular-brand bottle with wildcat brew. They get it cheaper, sell it cheaper and can rack up a big profit in a short time. Then, when the hot breath of the revenooers comes close, they shutter and set up shop elsewhere.

The Alcohol Tax Unit says your chance of getting moonshine in a reputable bar or club, or even in one which is not very classy, is probably only one in 10,000. The trouble comes from the out-of-the-way spots, many of which operate without licenses. There are simply too many joints and too few enforcement agents to make regular checkups and keep them in line.

So with all this illicit grog floating around how can you be sure that the next bottle of liquor you buy was not cooked in somebody's garage? There are some specific tests you can apply yourself, passed on by the ATU. However, the enforcement people emphasize that only actual laboratory ex-

amination can prove conclusively that liquor is legal stuff. But these tests should be enough to arouse your grave suspicions:

1. Examine the revenue stamp carefully. It is pasted over the cork or screw top of the bottle. Compare it with the stamp on a legitimate bottle. If it is smudged, lighter or darker in hue than the real McCoy, it's counterfeit. In addition, all revenue stamps today have "4/5 quart" printed on the end. The Internal Revenue Department has discontinued using "1/5 gallon," but some moonshiners are not up to date.

2. Sniff the contents carefully. Does it have a raw or harsh aroma? Some moonshine is so badly made that the difference is immediately apparent. Other stuff is good and only the trained noses of the ATU's chemical division can tell the difference.

3. This test will tell you if 100-proof bottled-in-bond liquor is real or phony but won't work with blends.

Shake the bottle vigorously. If the foam which forms on the top disappears slowly, it's legitimate. If it vanishes almost at once, look out, because the stuff is either homemade or has been watered. To get around this, moonshiners sometimes spike their liquor with a beading oil, which causes the bubbles to remain. But usually this will cause the foam to stay even longer than in legal liquor.

If there is (Continued on page 43)

Gimmicks that Pay Off

It's easy to start a part-time business with some new gadget or other. A small investment can bring a good return and it's usually fun

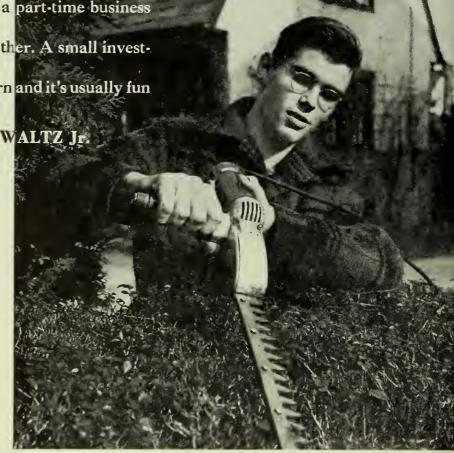
By GEORGE H. WALTZ Jr.

OR THE PAST FEW MONTHS, Charles Anthony, an ex-GI of South Norwalk, Conn., has been making money out of snow. He's been kept busy during his spare time clearing sidewalks and driveways in his community with a motor-driven hand tractor fitted with a snow-plow attachment. It isn't hard work—the 5-horsepower engine takes the backache out of the job—and he's been netting a good spare-time weekly income.

When you read this, Anthony will be making some changes in his equipment. He'll be unhooking the snowplow and oiling up a rotary lawnmower and cultivator, which will be operated by the tractor. Then he'll be ready for Spring and Summer. Amateur gardeners in the neighborhood will again be calling on him to cut their grass and break their soil, paying him, of course, for his efforts. Anthony's equipment, an outfit made by the Gravely Motor



THE COMPACT Robot camera takes pictures as fast as you can press the release



ANYONE with hedges to trim is a good prospect for the fellow with a power hedge clipper. Here's a business you can get into for \$37.50, the price of this Sunbeam

Plow and Cultivator Co., is worth about \$600 and the upkeep is negligible.

There are a lot of fellows like Anthony, who have bought hand tractors to earn spare time money. There are still more who are making money with power gardening equipment which calls for even less of an investment, such as a power lawnmower, which can be bought for about \$100 or \$150, or an electric hedge trimmer, which can be purchased for \$40 or \$50. Those who are using such gadgets say it's a cinch to sell their off-hour services to tired householders.

The big trick in making money out of any spare-time enterprise—and any full-time business, for that matter—is to know the community that is to be your market. The road to success

starts with the conception of some sort of service that is needed yet is not readily available. And that is where gadgets often can be helpful, by making it possible for you to provide a *different* kind of service.

Today it would be difficult to find a community where there isn't at least one fellow who takes pictures professionally. Certainly there were plenty of professional cameramen in Bloomington, Ind., when about a year ago Legionnaire Robert Carroll decided he could use more money than he was earning in his radio broadcasting job. Carroll wanted to take pictures, but to avoid competition he worked out an unusual service. To his array of still and motion picture cameras he added portable sound-recording equipment, (Continued on page 55)



WANT to take up recording? This tape machine, a Bell Record-o-fone, lists for \$159.50. Phonograph discs can be recorded from the tape



THE POLAROID Land Camera, \$89.75, is a money-maker





CUTTING the neighbors' grass is profitable, with a power mower. The investment is small. This Reo retails for only \$105.45



ED SPEAR, of East Springfield, Mass., started a part-time business making models. His equipment was his son's toy molding set



Would Europe be a push-over for the Soviet military machine? There's a lot more to it than can be found in statistics on manpower and materiel

By IB MELCHIOR and WILL SPARKS

RE YOU ONE of the millions of Americans who today believe that should the "cold war" become a shooting war tomorrow, Russia could sweep to the Atlantic by the end of the month?

If so, how much of what you know is based on fact, and how much on

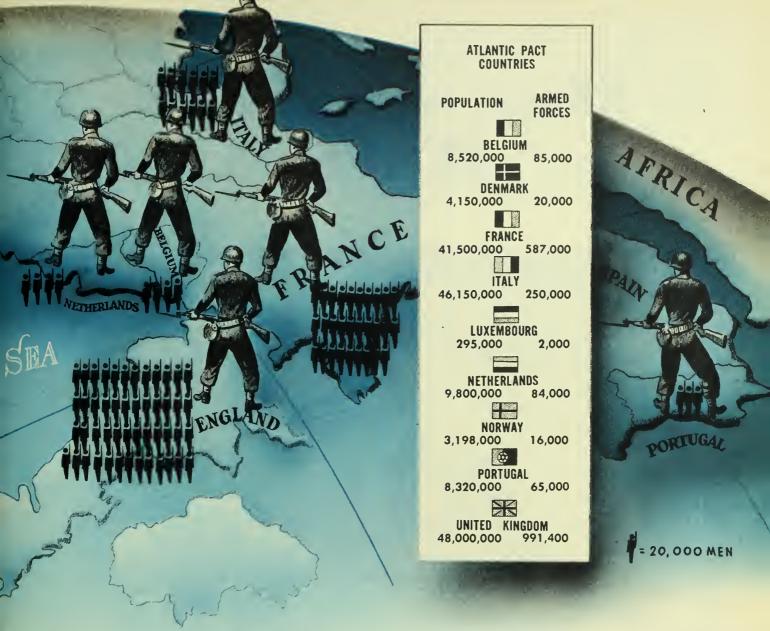
shrewd propaganda of the commies?

The communists, foreign and domestic, have insidiously touted the armed might which lurks behind the iron curtain; — it outnumbers Western Europe's two to one, with the Red air force at 30,000 planes, plus a growing fleet of submarines.

In reply to this international communist saber rattling, the U.S. and 11 other democratic countries formed the North Atlantic Pact. Twelve armies forged into a firm bulwark against communism by the free nations, which have sworn that henceforth an attack against one is an attack against all, are the teeth of this Atlantic Pact.

Ill-equipped, badly outnumbered, and weak from war and occupation, is our Western European vanguard a push-over for the Russian juggernaut? Or will the Soviet sickle blunt itself on the tempered steel of democratic courage?

Tables of statistics do not show intangibles like fortitude, the will to win and the will to work for freedom. It was a search for these intangibles



which carried us by army C-54 from Westover Field in Massachusetts to the Burtonwood air base at Liverpool, and from there to Denmark, France and other outposts of democracy's frontiers to the east.

England, our first port of call, is a graphic reminder that there is a connection between money and a country's defense. Britain came out of the war practically bankrupt, meaning smaller armies, fewer warships and only the hard core of an airforce. When 70 B-29s were scheduled to be sent recently from the U.S. as part of the military assistance program of the Atlantic Pact, the RAF, Air Ministry and Cabinet Defense Committee debated for days before deciding to accept the shipment. The question was simply whether the depleted RAF could afford to train crews and pay operating and maintenance expenses.

But you soon get the impression that if the British lion has lost a little weight, he has at least retained his fighting heart. Air-wise, in fact, England is in many respects ahead of the U.S.; though weak on bombers, Britain's air force numbers over 250,000, is strongly equipped with what experts concede are the best interceptor jet fighters in the world, and is even assuming the responsibility of equipping the Continental airforces with jet Vampire and Meteor fighters.

Britain dramatized its jet transport lead over the U.S. when a 36-passenger de Havilland Jet Comet made an epic flight to North Africa and back at a speed of 450 miles an hour - 125 miles faster than our top propellerdriven transports. U.S. plane manufacturers are also complaining that the impoverished British government has granted \$100 million in subsidies for jet transport development, while the U.S. has granted nothing. Despite her much talked of health and welfare programs, Britain nevertheless is spending \$34 million a year more on defense than on all these programs combined. Yet only on the high seas has England been able to maintain both quality and quantity in her defense set-up. Her army down to about one-tenth its peak wartime strength, England still possesses a navy second only to ours, with 5 battleships, 12 aircraft carriers, 28 cruisers, 111 destroyers, 67 subs, and miscellaneous other vessels.

But don't be misled by this decline of Britain's land army. In full accord with Atlantic Pact chiefs of staff she is concentrating on developing along lines which will be most useful, as an air and naval power. In an age of specialization the western democracies have simply specialized their fighting forces.

There is in London a joke illustrating how conservative Britons are taking their country's rush into these post-war scientific developments pretty much in stride. Two elderly ladies are boarding a new jet transport when one of them turns to the pilot, and shaking (Continued on page 48)

Have we LICKED RHEUMATISM?





AF I ER

LEFT, an arthritic patient winces when a joint is touched. Right, he does a jig after hine days' cortisone treatment

ABOVE, how four days' treatment restored arm lift. But cortisone is very rare and its other effects need study

"Rheumatiz" or arthritis is older than the race of man, but the new drug cortisone is its nemesis. Here's the story and the job ahead

By J. B. RICE, M.D.

LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO the medical profession learned for the first time what rheumatism is. Until then, although I had been an M.D. for a quarter century, rheumatism was a dark and sinister mystery to me, and all my colleagues too. Almost as much of a mystery as when I was a little boy and called it "rheumatiz" and knew it was what "A'nt" Mary had.

My "A'nt" Mary's rheumatism was of the mild variety. She could predict rain with it and she was able to hobble about without the aid of crutches or even a cane almost up to the day of her death; but millions of people aren't so lucky.

There are several kinds of rheumatism or "arthritis" as the doctors call it. Some, like "A'nt" Mary's, only cause stiffness of the joints, with twinges of pain at an approaching change of the weather (due probably to differences in barometric pressure or the amount of moisture in the air.) In others, one joint after another becomes affected, and the pain is so exquisite that eventually the tortured victim can't bear the weight of bedclothes on his swollen and inflamed joints. For years, Clarence Day, famed author of "Life With Father," lay wracked with pain, a helpless victim of arthritis. Sometimes he could not move so much as a finger; but his mind was free and clear. With unconquerable spirit, he dictated one of the most cheerful stories of our time which has brought happiness and

laughter to millions of his countrymen.

History abounds with arthritic heroes. The joy which Columbus felt upon sighting land on his first voyage to America might have been marred by the pain of rheumatism, from which he had suffered for years; but it didn't keep him from making four trips to America under conditions of intolerable hardship.

Rheumatism is thought of by most of us as "an old man's disease"; but nothing could be further from the truth. Women suffer from it more often than men do, and half of its victims are under 45 years of age. Even young children have rheumatism, and frequently suffer terrible and permanent damage to their hearts as a result. The different kinds of arthri-

tis cause more suffering in the world today than cancer, infantile paralysis, diabetes, and non-rheumatic heart disease combined; and they cost wage-earners the loss of 100 million work-days a year.

Rheumatism has been with us from the beginning. It dogged the steps of our ancestors since the days when they lived in caves and, armed only with clubs, roamed the forests and fields in search of food. Nor is it confined to human beings. Many domestic and wild animals suffer from it, too. When a fish, with all its bones, gets arthritis, it must be more uncomfortable than a centipede with athlete's foot. In one of our museums lies the skeleton of a fish deformed by boney arthritis. This unhappy creature wriggled painfully through the primitive seas a hundred million years ago!

And doctors have been almost helpless in the face of this crippling disease. Try as they would, they have been able to do little more than ease the pain with drugs. With heavy hearts, they have watched their patients slowly become worse until death from one cause or another finally solved the pitiful problem that was too much for them.

This is the depressing story of rheumatism up till September 2, 1948. But, on September 3rd, something happened to change all that. Now we know what arthritis is, and how to fight it.

Every night of our lives, most of us

turn over in bed dozens of times with no more important consequence than perhaps a caustic remark about "squirming" from a long-suffering wife, or maybe a deep-throated growl from a sleepy husband. But early in the morning of September 3, 1948, an attractive young woman rolled over in bed - and made medical history. Had Napoleon suddenly turned over in his grave, the news could

hardly have been more startling – at least for millions of people with bodies gnarled and twisted by "rheumatism."

Most of this young woman's married life – she was only 29 years old – had been marred by common rheumatism so painful and crippling that it had driven her from doctor to doctor and from hospital to hospital. Finally, at the Mayo Clinic, she came under the care of Dr. Philip Hench, and became the first human "guinea-pig" to be treated with the new drug "cortisone." On the day of (Continued on page 42)



Dr. Philip S. Hench, the man who "turned the corner"



They've Got the CHAMPIONSHIP HABIT

How a big idea born under fire-plus a reserve

of high school band-trained men-blossomed into

a four-time national champion Legion band

By BOYD B. STUTLER

wo sergeants of the 129th Infantry Regiment's band were making themselves small in fox-holes dug close together in the neighborhood of Henderson Field on Guadalcanal. Times were lively and the Japs, still in arrogant strength, were pressing both on the ground and in the air. Overhead the Nips were in considerable force, scattering strings of bombs on the airfield and on units of Beightler's 37th Division (Buckeye Boys, though the 129th was an Illinois outfit) which was mopping up the surrounding jungle.

It was a long raid and time passed slowly. The Sergeants grew restless—they wanted to smoke, but thought better of it—and to relieve the tension struck up a bit of low-voiced conversation. It did not quite seem to be the place for small talk, and cussing the Japs did not seem to affect the status quo.

"How about getting our old band together when we get back to Joliet?"

asked Sergeant Archie McAllister, Jr., though the chance of getting back at that time seemed to be something less than fifty-fifty.

"Great idea! Greatest you've ever had!" responded Sergeant William E. Austin, Jr., with real enthusiasm. "We can get your dad to help us get started." And that led to further talk, not now so low-voiced.

The band they were talking about was a high school band—the Joliet (Illinois) High School Band—just a junior outfit, but man alive! What a band it was!

Flashing back to its ground roots in the piping days of peace, some forty years ago a high school band was organized by Musical Director Archie R. McAllister, Sr., which soon became a Joliet institution — and for that matter, a little later it became a national institution. The band, with changing personnel during each high school period, won so many national high school championships between 1923



NEVER BEATEN in four years of big time competition, Director McAllister calls a

and 1938 that it was excluded from further competition. By the same action, as a tribute to its excellence, the national high school band trophy was awarded to Joliet High School for permanent possession.

Then for some years after the musical group had lifted itself out of the competitive class, at the invitation of national musical groups and associations Director McAllister took the band on extended tours over the country each season. They played long en-



BILL AUSTIN is the outfit's tympanist

THE FRENCH horn tooters do their stuff





huddle around the king size drum to plan tactics and strategy for the 1950 competi-

tion season. The National Convention at Los Angeles on October 9 is big objective

gagements at the Music Hall in New York City, at Los Angeles and much of the country in between until World War II came to scatter the band boys and the old grads to the four quarters of the earth.

By the time the siren sounded "all clear" the two starry-eyed dreamers in their fox-holes were so full of the reorganization of the old band that they sat up most of the night talking and making plans. There were letters to be written to people back home, and

letters to be written to the old bandsmen who were by that time scattered among combat units on all fronts. True, their plans were a bit foggy as to financing and support, but definitely certain that the roundup of the old bandsmen would be complete. A new band was visualized, bigger and better than anything Joliet had ever seen. A Legion national championship band had its inception right there in that Guadalcanal fox-hole, with an assist from the Nips who had stopped to

drop some fire-biscuits for tea. Translated from a dream into reality, it is now the American Legion Memorial Band, sponsored by Harwood Post No. 5, Joliet, Illinois—top flight musical outfit since its first appearance in a Legion national competition at the San Francisco National Convention in

The letters were not written that night - nor for many nights afterward. It was the late summer of 1943 and the Japs were still strong, and were most pestiferous at times. There were many things for infantry soldiers to do, classified as "line of duty," that claimed right of way over plans for a reorganized band. Duty called - at daybreak the next morning the 129th loaded into invasion barges to make a beachhead landing on a neighboring island. That is, all the 129th but Bill Austin - the medicos were sending him back for hospitalization. So Arch and Bill said good-bye, each urging the other to carry out the groundwork for "Our Plan."

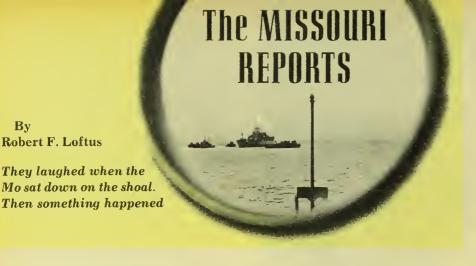
Things were changing in Joliet, too. The stress of war effort and the natural erosion of time had to be brought into the planning. New adjustments had to be made. All of which Bill Austin found out when, discharged for disabilities, he got back to Joliet in January, 1945. There was little he could do but wait for a general release of men from the Armed Services, which meant the end of the war. The greatest blow to the "Plan" fell in September when Archie R. McAllister, Sr., who had devoted his life to music and was known as the "father of high school bands in America," died. Things were at a standstill when Archie McAllister, Jr., returned to Joliet the next month, but first there was a revision of the plan - the band would be organized as a living (Continued on page 44)



JACK HINTON, Bill Brockman, Bruce Perry and Jim Hinton, above, are part of the root-a-tooting trombone section



WEEKLY rehearsal sessions are a requirement, each one a concert within itself. Above, part of the oom-pah, oom-pah division



UEENS, they say, die proudly. But across her fluttering pennants and there wasn't much pride left to the U.S.S. Missouri. She squatted impotently in the muck of Hampton Roads, a symbol of futility and frustration.

Bv

When the Missouri ran aground on the sands of Thimble Shoal on the morning of January 17, a wave of laughter rocked the country. The national funnybone was tickled by the spectacle of the Navy's mightiest battleship stuck on the bar, helpless as a rowboat, within sight of her home base.

That was a black moment for the Missouri and a blacker one for a Navy that had had its share of bad breaks in recent months.

Then something happened. The jeering died away and overnight the Mighty Mo found a popularity she had never known in her glory as the World War II surrender ship. Partly it was the way the dungaree navy spat on its hands and went to work without excuses or alibis; partly it was sympathy for a skipper tapped by hard luck on his first big command.

The Missouri was heading out of Norfolk when it happened, bound for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on her first training cruise under a new skipper, Capt. William D. Brown of Jacksonville, Florida. Her 47-year-old captain was a veteran of the Pacific war, a man marked for promotion; his officers were highly-trained, competent, the crew the customary mixture of green hands and salted veterans. At the wheel was a 22-year-old bluejacket, Quartermaster 2/c Beven E. Travis of Napa, Calif. Travis had joined the Navy when he was 15, served through the Pacific campaigns and was assigned to the Missouri in 1945. He had steered the battleship out of Norfolk more times than he could re-

Visibility was perfect as the Mighty Mo slipped slowly from her berth, cast off her tugs, dropped the dock pilot and pushed her great gray bow into the channel. The morning sun splashed

sparkled on her shiny brasswork as she loped out toward the open sea at an easy 12 knots.

Voluntarily, but at the request of Navy experimenters ashore, Capt. Brown was taking his ship out along the extreme left edge of the main ship channel, running a secret acoustic test range marked by a row of temporary buoys.

What went wrong at that point remained to be cleared up by the naval court of inquiry that began investigating two days after the Missouri was refloated. There was confusion on the bridge, uncertainty over charts and buoy markings, conflicting instructions. The helmsman held to course. The big ship glided straight on to the left of a buoy marking the left limit of safe waters, instead of turning sharply right with the deep channel. Past the end of the acoustic range she drove and on into the waiting trap of Thimble Shoal, a long spit of sand built up during the 19th century by inbound vessels that dumped ballast there to lighten ship for the final passage into Norfolk.

For three full ship lengths, about 2500 feet, the monster warship plowed across the sand before coming gently to rest with her dark water line seven feet in the air. The impact was so slight that many of her officers and men did not at first realize they were aground. They were high and dry, about two miles north-northeast of Old Point Comfort, their bows pointing northeast almost at right angles to the main channel.

It was to cost 15 days of sweat, toil and tears before the last of the great queen battleship floated free again to rejoin the fleet. In dollars, the cost depended on how you looked at it. A navy spokesman said at one point that a civilian salvage outfit would have charged at least \$10,000,000 to do the job in the time the Navy did it. In actual cash, the Navy spent less than

\$20,000 for the rent of a civilian dredge: it borrowed another dredge from the Army; Navy salaries go on whether a ship is affoat or aground, and the tugs and gear used already had been charged against the Navy's appropria-

A small fleet of tugs went out that first day. They tried and failed twice to drag the Big Mo free. Then they called in Rear Adm. Allan E. Smith, a smiling Scot who commands the Atlantic Fleet cruisers, and Rear Adm. Homer N. Wallin, commandant of the Portsmouth Naval Yard, who had won a salvage reputation clearing away the wreckage left by Jap bombers at Pearl Harbor.

The job facing them was a staggering one, probably the biggest of its kind the Navy ever tackled. Drawing more than 36 feet, the Missouri had grounded in slightly over 28 feet of water. Worse yet, she had piled up on an abnormally high tide that would not recur for more than two weeks. Her 57,000-ton bulk measured 108 feet across and 887 feet - almost the length of three football fields - from stem to stern.

The salvage admirals put their two big dredges to work digging out a 40foot deep pathway from the Missouri's stern back to the ship channel a halfmile away, and carving out deep trenches on either side of the stranded battlewagon. Divers went down to inspect the damage and clear away the muck with high-pressure hose. They found only three of her 400 underwater compartments damaged. Her 200,000 horsepower engines were uninjured, but they could not be used for fear of sucking in sand through the main intake valve near the Missouri's bottom.

That first inspection convinced them they were in for trouble. The ship's broad hull was resting flat on a bed of coarse sand that, under the enormous pressure of her weight, had taken on the consistency of a poor-grade cement. The sticky mass had formed a tight suction on the ship's bottom, like a rubber pad stuck to a wet tile floor.

But by the morning of January 20, Adms. Smith and Wallin were ready for their first big try. They strung a team of eight tugs off the Missouri's stern and massed 13 more against her side for the pull. For 98 minutes they huffed and puffed, straining in unison in 10-second surges of full power, slacking off, and leaning to it again. Hundreds of blue jackets on the battleship's towering main deck sallied ship, running from side to side in an effort to rock the Missouri on her sandy bed. Finally, with the tide beginning to slacken, they gave up.

The next flood tide was due with the full moon February 2 and Adm. Smith reluctantly (Continued on page 61)

Proposals Of Hoover Report Concerning Veterans Are Unsound, National Commander Craig Says; Asks Study

By GEORGE N. CRAIG National Commander

In its 19-part report to the Congress on the re-organization and management of the executive branch of the Federal Government, the Hoover Commission presented some three hundred major recommendations. These recommendations cover a wide field, touching nearly every bureau and division of that part of the operation of government loosely classified as the executive branch. Naturally, as has been pointed out, in a study and report of this magnitude there are bound to be some sharp differences of opinion and of interpretation. False conclusions are easily drawn from untried theories and certain forms of wishful thinking.

Four of the 19 reports have as their subject the conduct of Federal activities in its relation with veterans of all wars. These recommendations are but a small part of the total. But their effect, if accepted and enacted into law, would, in the opinion of the most experienced men in the Legion and the other major veterans' organizations, adversely effect the administration of veterans' affairs to the serious disadvantage of the veterans themselves - and at no saving in administrative costs. The Hoover Commission would dismember the single agency which now handles veteran matters, the Veterans Administration, and scatter its present functions out to other agencies and bureaus, two of them entirely new. Here is what the four Reports, Numbers 2, 9, 16 and 14 propose to do:

Proposals

1. Consolidate the VA hospitals and medical services with the Army, Navy and Public Health and other services in a new administrative unit to be known as the United Medical Administration.

2. Place responsibility for building hospitals with the Department of the Interior, in a new division presumably to be established.

3. Transfer the Loan Guaranty Section of the VA to the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

4. Provide for the creation of an Insurance Corporation to take over the administration of National Service and Government Life Insurance — a new

5. To substitute thousands of virtually independent boards for the single Civil Service Commission now procuring personnel for all agencies, including the policing of veteran preference in Government employ.

The Hoover Commission has done its work and has gone out of business. Its

reports have been made to the Congress. Parts of the Report have been effectuated, other parts are in process of study and consideration—and this part embraces the sections relating to veterans. With these The American Legion is in disagreement and offers its most forceful opposition. This opposition is not a Headquarters decision—it is the voice of the Legion as expressed in a resolution, adopted in a regular session of the National Convention at Philadelphia on September 1, 1949.

Vet Organizations Concur

The American Legion, the other major veterans' organizations and the unaffiliated American veterans, a group which amounts to a considerable segment of the national population, are just as much and as deeply interested in economy and efficiency in government as any other group of citizens. That is a major concern, but we are equally concerned with the care of sick and disabled men and women veterans in the most efficient manner and with all practical economy. Our experience of 31 years in the rehabilitation and care of war disabled men and women physically and mentally disabled — tells us that the suggestions offered by the Hoover Commission may do no part of that.

Rather, our experience tells us that the proposed dismemberment of the Veterans Administration — which was created after a chaotic trial of the multiple bureau plan - will most likely add to administrative costs and confusion to the veteran. The older veterans well remember when they were shunted from bureau to division and back again to find the answer to a problem. The Veterans Administration, as a single agency, to a very great extent, cured that - and now we are asked to revert to the old multiple bureau plan.

New divisions, new expenses, new personnel, and more confusion are apt to be more dangerous and expensive than commence of the second

MAY 3-5 FIXED FOR MEET OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The National Executive Committee of The American Legion will hold its regular spring meeting at the National Headquarters at Indianapolis on May 3, 4 and 5, according to an announcement by National Adjutant Henry H. Dudley. The meeting, as in past years, will be preceded by meetings of several major standing commissions called to Headquarters to review and report on Legion programs.

helpful to taxpaper and veteran alike.

The American Legion asks its members and the general public to keep in mind the essential fact that the Legion does not oppose the Hoover Report in its entirety. It has voiced its opposition only to the four sections relating to veterans and veteran affairs-on which it is most well qualified to speak. The Legion believes after a thorough and complete study of the proposed "economy reforms" that the recommendations, while no doubt honestly made, suffer from an excess of theory and a lack of practical background in veteran affairs. The Legion speaks from practical experience of a full 31 years.

We of The American Legion know that the creation of new governmental agencies and corporations is an added burden of expense to the taxpayers. When it was learned that the present Veterans Administration, which is solely responsible to the President and to the Congress, was to be dismembered and divided into five different parts we felt that these facts, together with many other technical details of the Report, should be presented to the American people. We have laid the case before the people that they might be enabled to let their Representatives in the Congress know whether or not these radical proposals meet with their approval.

And so The American Legion, basing its statement and arguments solely upon the proposition of efficiency and economy in the discharge of a nation's obligations, have taken to the people its opposition and its side of the story against that portion of the Hoover Report, together with facts and figures to establish the conclusions.

No Pig in a Poke

It seemed almost unbelievable that any group of citizens, or an organization, would ask the American people to buy the Hoover Report in its entirety without looking at it, and at the same time violently castigate the Legion for asking the people to study the Report and the facts - such as are known. Knowledge is to be had of the proportionate high cost and poor service of the half dozen bureaus before the VA was established. We do not want, and can not have, an "economy" for the sake of "doing something" which in the end may cost us more. Neither the veteran nor other taxpayers will be served by that.

The American Legion and the other major veteran organizations want to preserve the Veterans Administration as the central agency-and at the minimum cost consistent with efficiency. Plainly the less funds wasted in administration the more are available for service to veterans as well as other Government needs. We believe the American people agree with our thinking, and our concern.

The VA operations are not perfect, and The American Legion will continue to point out improvements in service and procedure as its day by day studies indicate. We have done this for nearly 30 years. We now have a force of 1,700 accredited representatives, including field and rehabilitation people, covering the whole VA system for that purpose.

The Legion maintains that the recommendations of the Hoover Report in the four sections relating to veterans are unsound and will only lead to further waste and chaos. This belief is founded on bitter experience, and we will continue to carry our arguments to the people, giving facts and figures for our reasons of conclusion. We ask only that the American people study the Reports and visualize their effects before arriving at a decision. We are confident in our belief that to do otherwise would do our nation a great disservice.

RELIGIOUS TRAINING THEME OF CHILD WELFARE MONTH

April has been observed as American Legion Child Welfare Month for the past 13 years, and this year the Child Welfare Commission is especially emphasizing the importance of spiritual development and training in the life of children.

"The National Child Welfare Commission is cooperating fully in the observance of April 16th as a time of reaffirmation of faith," Dr. A. H. Wittmann, Legion Child Welfare Chairman, announced.

A booklet entitled "Your Own Two Feet" has been issued in connection with the child welfare promotion. "Through this booklet we attempt to point out that the aim of the Legion's child welfare program is to help families remain together as self-supporting units of society," Dr. Wittmann said. "We are convinced that the spiritual well-being of children is just as important as physical welfare and are doing everything we can in cooperation with the National Commander and Chaplain in the appeal for Divine guidance to be focused on the week of April 16th.

Copies of the booklet "Your Own Two Feet" are available without charge upon request to the National Child Welfare Division, The American Legion, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

VETERAN HOSPITAL LOBBY REFURNISHED BY NY POST

Duncan Phyfe Post No. 1245, which has for its membership veterans in the furniture, home furnishing and affiliated industries of Greater New York, has completed a program of completely refurnishing and redecorating the Main "D" lobby in Kingsbridge Veteran Administration Hospital, Bronx, New

AN APPEAL FOR DIVINE GUIDANCE

Message from National Commander Craig to the People of America

Our nation along with every other freedom-loving country today faces mankind's greatest crisis which involves peril to all life on earth.

Never before have our people had greater need for divine guidance in the decisions which they now face. We need this spiritual aid not only in our relations with other nations but also in our domestic affairs.

We need to get closer to God. He is our ally. He is our greatest asset in our endeavor to keep the beacons of human liberty shining and to prevent the ultimate catastrophe of atomic warfare.

To that end The American Legion urges the people of America to turn to an appeal for divine guidance in a re-dedication of their faith in our God.

As National Commander of The

American Legion I am calling on our 17,382 Posts and the 13,000 Units of our Auxiliary, to lead the way in communities throughout our land in bringing together all elements of our population for a "Go to Church" movement starting with the week of April 16.

Legionnaires who have gone through combat, know that victories are never won by men and women of little faith. Our first armament must be spiritual. The American Legion can render no greater service than to contribute the vast resources of its manpower to this movement to make religion the guiding factor of our daily decisions. Our fervent hope is that all America will join in this spiritual crusade to make God an active partner in the fight for peace through our unity in the invincible strength of faith and courage.

York. Formal dedication of the new lobby was held on February 22nd, with Commander Joel Calgut presiding. Hon. Vincent R. Impelliteri, President

Hon. Vincent R. Impelliteri, President of the City Council, Bronx Borough President James J. Lyon, Paul Rutheiser, New York County Legion Commander and other dignitaries took part in the ceremony. Ralph G. DeVoe, Manager of the Hospital, accepted the furnishings for the VA.

Two plaques were unveiled in the lobby commemorating the event, to serve as a memorial to Lincoln Johnson and the heroic dead of Duncan Phyfe Post. The project was carried out by the Lincoln Johnson Memorial Committee on "D" Lobby, chairmaned by John J. Assenzio, Past Commander.

The main lobby is the only meeting place provided at the hospital for the 1,600 patients to receive their friends and relatives. The need for more cheerful furnishings and decorations to replace the worn, torn and shabby furniture was suggested by the Post's Service and Hospitalization Officer, Jack Shulman, and was endorsed by the Post's Executive Committee.

Talent in the home furnishing industry was drawn upon to design the new lobby, and liberal contributions came from the furniture and allied industries in providing the pieces conforming to the general design. Now, thanks to Duncan Phyfe Post,—and at no drain on any hospital appropriation—a homelike meeting place has been provided that will make the weekly visits to the patients more cheerful and more like a family reunion. The nicer surroundings will be a great help to the recovery and rehabilitation of the sick.

OMAHA PICKED AGAIN FOR JUNIOR BASEBALL TOURNEY

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Following a nation-wide series of conferences with Junior Baseball officials from 48 departments during which plans for the twenty-fourth year of the program was outlined, the 1950 American Legion Junior Baseball season was officially declared underway.

The meetings were held in New York City, Atlanta, Omaha, and San Francisco under the direction of Dale Miller, National Administrator of American Legion Junior Baseball.

It was pointed out that the rules governing national tournament competition are essentially unchanged from those of 1949 which successfully governed the play of the record breaking total of 15,912 teams that were officially reported.

The 1950 National Finals will again be held in Omaha, Nebraska, where in 1949 a record throng of 45,358 fans paid their way through the gates to watch the Captain Bill Erwin Post No. 337 climax the five-day event by outlasting the George W. Budde Post No. 507 of Cincinnati, 8 to 6, in the final game. This year's Junior Baseball classic will be staged from September 4-8.

Also in attendance at the various meetings were many prominent Legionnaires including National Americanism Commission Members James F. Green (Chairman), Lew Fortier, Alfred Shepherd, William Bourdon; Erle Cocke, Jr., Chairman of the National Security Commission; Basil Stockbridge, first Department Commander of Georgia; Bob Joiner, Department Adjutant of Georgia; and Arthur Daniels, Vice-Commander of California.

Bill To Revive CCC Given To Congress Legion Asks For Security Training

By MILES D. KENNEDY National Legislative Director

S. 3144 was introduced on February 28 to reestablish a Civilian Conservation Corps; to provide for the conservation of natural resources and the development



Miles D. Kennedy

of human resources through the employment of youthful citizens in the performance of useful work, including job training and instruction in good work habits. This measure was sponsored by Senators Murray, Thomas of Utah, Pepper, Green, Kilgore, Taylor, Humphrey, Neely and Lehman.

It was referred to the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

On the same date Congresswoman Bosone introduced a companion, H. R. 7462, and on the floor of the House had this to say concerning her bill to set up a modified version of the Civilian Conservation Corps program:

"First, at the present time there are some 4,000,000 acres of national forests which need reforestation. There are 2,000,000 acres of trees suffering from blister rust. 100,000 miles of roads need to be built into the various mountainous and wooded areas of this country. 1,400 lookout towers are needed for fire protection.

"Second, last month there were 1,000,000 boys between the ages of 16 and 24 who were looking for work. Unemployment at the present time is greatest in this age group.

"I have long since been convinced that the thousands of boys who know nothing but the pavements of congested areas should have an opportunity to breathe the fresh air that comes from working in the out-of-doors. I believe the records will so show the health results and morale building of the CCC camps during the depression. I very definitely think that the influence of such a program has an important effect upon the future lives of these boys. It is a program of conservation all the way around."

If the situation described by Congresswoman Bosone actually exists it would appear that the need for putting into effect The American Legion program of National Security Training is now worthy of every consideration. Our National Security Training Program would not only take the boys "off the street" but it would give them much needed training in health and discipline, in the event of another national emergency.

Merchant Marine

On February 16 your National Legislative Director filed with the Subcom-

mittee on Merchant Marine and Maritime Matters of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, a statement submitted on behalf of The American Legion by James Phillips, Chairman of the Legion National Merchant Marine Committee, in connection with the hearings now being conducted on S. 2786, to amend the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, and to further promote the development and maintenance of the American Merchant Marine, and for other purposes. This was done in conformity with Resolution No. 662, adopted by the Philadelphia, 1949, National Convention.

Veterans Employment Service

On February 7 Lawrence J. Fenlon, Illinois, Chairman of the Legion National Economic Commission, appeared before the Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee having charge of the Labor Department bill for 1951, at which time he presented The American Legion's views concerning allocation of funds for the Veterans' Employment Service. Mr. Fenlon pointed out that his recommendations were based upon extensive studies The American Legion had made of this problem and recommended that the Committee appropriate for the Veterans' Employment Service the sum of \$2,695,363, which would provide a total of 487 positions and adequate travel and other services. This amount would also provide for an increase of 211 Assistant Veterans' Employment Representatives to be assigned to the various states.

On February 28, Ralph Lavers, Director of the Legion National Economic Commission, submitted to the Subcommittee on Labor-FSA Appropriations of the Senate Appropriations Committee,

1950 CONVENTION OFFICE OPENED AT LOS ANGELES

Breaking ground for a recordsmashing West Coast meet, American Legion headquarters for its 32nd National Convention in Los Angeles, October 9 to 12, have been opened in that city at 947 West 7th Street. National Convention Director Ed W. Bolt is in personal charge of the office.

Director Bolt is preparing the Los Angeles area to care for a minimum of 100,000 Legionnaires and their families during the Convention.

The 1950 meet at Los Angeles will be the second time the National Convention has been held in that city. It was host to the 20th annual conclave in 1938. Other Pacific Coast cities, San Francisco in 1923 and 1946, and Portland, Oregon, in 1932, have entertained the National Legion Convention.

substantially the same information that Mr. Fenlon gave the House Subcommittee earlier in the month.

Veterans Preference

Hearings were held March 2 by the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service on S. 2111, the McCarthy Bill to revise the personnel policy governing the civil service of the United States, to revise the pay and pay administration policy in the executive branch of the Government, and for other purposes. These hearings were covered by Miles D. Kennedy, Director of the National Legislative Commission and Herbert J. Jacobi, Vice-Chairman of the American Legion Veterans' Preference Committee, who testified before the Senate Committee in opposition to enactment of S. 2111. This action was in keeping with our program on this matter, as adopted by the Philadelphia, 1949, National Convention to oppose Hoover recommendations weakening veterans' preference in Civil Service.

Hospitals

On February 28 the House Majority Leader McCormack asked unanimous consent that the business in order on "Calendar Wednesday" of the week be dispensed with. Representative Rankin objected and said he expected to continue to object to it until the House voted on H. R. 5965 to restore the 16,000 beds in the veterans' hospitals that were removed by executive order. Mr. Rankin stated:

"The money was appropriated last year for this purpose. It affects every State in the Union. In order that we may make every effort possible to get this bill to the floor of the House, I have also filed a petition, No. 24, with the Clerk, to petition it out of the Rules Committee that seems to have sat down on my motion for a rule."

He requested interested members to sign petition No. 24 and served notice on the House that he would keep on objecting to dispensing with "Calendar Wednesday" until the Veterans' Committee is reached.

Un-American Activities

The Mundt, Ferguson and Johnston bill, S. 2311, known as the "Subversive Activities Control Act" dealing with the subject of communism was endorsed by the Philadelphia, 1949, National Convention. This bill specifically requires registration of members of the Communist Party. Full and complete hearings have been held by the Senate Judiciary Committee, which on March 3rd voted to favorably report.

This is one of the most important matters upon which The American Legion has been taking the leading part for the past several years, and it is to be hoped that the members of The American Legion throughout the country will indicate their desire for affirmative action to their Senators. This legislation comprises one point in the "priority legislative program" as outlined at the November, 1949, National Executive Committee meeting.

KENTUCKY POST SETS STAGE FOR BICENTENNIAL FIESTA

When Deaton-Smith Post No. 69, Barboursville, Kentucky, bought the site of the first log house raised in the Blue Grass State back in 1930, the Legionnaires had little thought that they were setting the stage for their home town's largest and most colorful celebration. Yet, that is what they did.

The site of Dr. Thomas Walker's home -built in the spring of 1750 - became Walker State Park. Now 20 years after the purchase by the Legion, on April 28-30, 1950, the Post, the city and the State of Kentucky will go all out for a big Thomas Walker Bicentennial celebration. The first date will mark the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Dr. Walker and his five trusty companions at what is now Barboursville.

For months Deaton-Smith Post and members of the Thomas Walker Memorial have planned for the celebration. Congressmen will be there; the University of Kentucky's band will play; there will be barbecue and burgoo for everybody. Union College co-eds will be dressed in bonnets and shawls; their male classmates will sport buckskin outfits and coonskin caps; farmers out in Knox County will drive covered wagons in the big parade. The whole county will be in pioneer costume.

A replica of the log hut raised by Dr. Walker and his companions now stands on the land deeded by Deaton-Smith Post to the State Park Commission. During the celebration the cornerstone will be laid for a new memorial building at the Park.

The Barboursville celebration will spark a series of home-coming meets to be held in 1950, which has been officially dedicated as Homecoming Year in Kentucky.

ILLINOIS ADJUTANT MUNDT RESIGNS: ESPER TAKES JOB

After a full 25 years of service to the Illinois Legion Department, 23 of them as Department Adjutant, William C. Mundt has tendered his resignation, effective March 31. He had been on leave of absence for some weeks prior to his resignation, due to ill health. He will go to California to spend a few months

Effective April 1st, Leonard W. Esper, of Springfield, Past Department Commander, took over as Acting Adjutant, according to an announcement by Department Commander Merle E. Schaad.

Adjutant Bill Mundt was one of the founders of The American Legion at the St. Louis Caucus in 1919, and is a life member of Fairbury Post No. 54. Commander Schaad said his leaving is a great loss to the Illinois Legion.

The incoming Acting Adjutant, Leonard W. Esper, is a charter member of Springfield Post No. 32. He served as Department Commander in 1944 and was a member of the National Executive Committee in 1947 and 1948. He is currently serving as a member of the National Legislative Commission.

PRIZE LETTER WINNERS

Winners of the contest for the most interesting letters entitled WHAT I PLAN TO DO WITH MY NSLI INSURANCE DIVIDEND are herewith announced by The American Legion Magazine.

The first prize of \$500 has been awarded to Melville W. Missall, 622 W. Islay St., Santa Barbara, Cal., an Air Force veteran who said he planned to use his dividend as a down payment on a manually-controlled car for his wife, a polio victim.

Runners-up in the contest, who received awards of ten dollars each,

Robert L. Barnes, 2535 Central Ave., Dubuque, Ia., who will use his dividend to visit his mother and brother whom he hasn't seen since he was two years old.

John S. Corwin, RR #2, Portland, Ind., who plans to use his money to help bring a displaced family to this country.

Edward B. Davis, 624 Carson St., Huntington, W. Va., who intends to invest his dividend money in a small truck farm.

Albert L. Guess, Box 1944, Bisbee, Ariz., who wants to make a home for his mother-in-law.

E. W. Hanson, Box 566, Cartersville, Ga., who plans to bring a German girl here to take the place of a daughter they lost.

A. M. Johnson, 2231/2 E. 83rd St., Los Angeles, Cal., whose dividend will make it possible for him to get married.

Paul A. Morgan, Box 666, Sitka, Alaska, who will buy Savings Bonds to provide for his daughter's education.

Warren O. Page, 32 Marlboro St., Newburyport, Mass., who plans to contribute to the National Polio Foundation to repay the organization for aiding his wife when she had this disease.

William A. Rickertsen, 414 S. Iowa, Charles City, Ia., who intends to start his own electroplating busi-

Robert C. Salander, 326 Peterson St., Fort Collins, Colo., who wants to return to France in an effort to "reach some understanding of the world we live in before it's all blown to hell."

Letters were judged on the basis of interest, and an independent organization was engaged to select the most promising of the thousands of letters submitted. The letters they liked best were then submitted to members of the staff of the magazine, who made the decision in each case.

Announcement of the contest was made in the December 1949 issue of the magazine, and the contest was closed for entries on January 31st.

MAGAZINE NOTICE HELPS CLEAR NAME OF SOLDIER

Listed as absent without leave for nearly five years, Pfc. Edward A. Overstreet, Dobbs Ferry, New York, has had his name cleared by the Army. He has finally been declared "killed in action" during a combat operation in Italy, April 28, 1945. The final proof needed to establish his death was obtained from a service comrade who read the appeal of the soldier's father, Jesse A. Overstreet, in the "Comrades in Distress" column of this magazine for May, 1949.

Pfc. Overstreet, 22, had hard service in Africa with Co. B, 14th Armored Infantry Battalion, and was wounded at the Anzio landing in Italy. He disappeared while raiding Nazi resistance pockets in the Po Valley. No report was made to his unit; he was listed as AWOL, and was so carried until Staff Sergeant Lem M. Hignight, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, read the item in this magazine's "Comrades in Distress" column. He was with Pvt. Overstreet when he was killed, and was able to make a comprehensive, detailed statement which the Army officials accepted, and which cleared the name of the soldier - restored him to an honorable status, with all benefits.

The case of this young soldier was carried through by J. Eugene Baker, Dobbs Ferry attorney and Past Commander of Dobbs Ferry Post No. 1048, of which the father, Jesse A. Overstreet, a WW1 veteran, is a member.

Another interesting development from this small notice was reported from California. Legionnaire Ralph Overstreet read the notice. He carried it to his mother, Mrs. Edythe Overstreet, Fontana, California, who informed him that Jesse A. Overstreet was her nephew, but that she had long since lost track of him. The two branches of the family were again brought together by correspondence.

Installed as Bishop

Most Reverend Christopher J. Weldon, D.D., was recently consecrated and installed as Bishop of Springfield, Massachusetts. The fourth Roman Catholic Bishop of that city, he served on active duty during WW2 as chaplain aboard the U.S.S. Guadalcanal. He is a member of Advertising Men's Post No. 209, The American Legion, of New York City.

Life Membership for Vivian

A silver-card life membership in Taylor-Miller Post No. 21, Golden, Colorado, was presented to Hon. John C. Vivian, former Governor of that State, in an elaborate ceremony on Monday evening, March 6. The presentation was made by Department Commander A. Woody Hewett.

Governor Vivian organized the Golden Post in 1919, on his return from service as a Marine in WW1. He served as Commander in 1923; Department Commander in 1924, and National Executive Committeeman in 1947-48.

An all-year-round program of Reams Post No. 182, Suisun, California, is that of gathering up broken toys, repairing and painting them for distribution to underprivileged children at Christmastime. A total of 127 children were thus cared for at last holiday season... Correction: The "Prayer for Peace" movement, adopted by the Legion's National Executive Committee at its November, 1949, meeting, was originated by Herve J. L'Heureux at a meeting of the Last Man's Club of William H. Jutras Post No. 43, Manchester, New Hampshire, instead of Henry J. Sweeney Post, same city, as stated in the December number .. Albert F. Lenhart, Adjutant of Smiths Creek (Michigan) Post No. 525, made up a series of three postcards addressed to both Michigan Senators and the District Congressman opposing the veteran section of the Hoover Report. Post members sent signed copies to the men addressed and, in addition, 500 sets were sent by non-veterans of the community.

* * ·* * Parsons (Kansas) Post No. 56 threw a big party in honor of Legionnaire Charles B. Martin, retiring as Service Officer after 28 years of service - part of the time doubling as Post Adjutant. A Life Membership card, a Kansas Department Special Rehabilitation Citation were presented, and his picture was hung with the Past Commanders...Paul A. McGreenery, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, Legion Commander, has issued a bulletin to his member Posts asking that Legion material be placed in public and school libraries, particularly Jones' History of The American Legion, available from the Emblem Division, National Headquarters, and subscriptions to The American Legion Magazine... Mare Island Navy Yard Post No. 550, Vallejo, California, held its annual Community Service Award Dinner on the evening of January 24, honoring Edwin Pierce for distinguished and devoted service to the Vallejo community and its people.

* * * * Miami Beach (Florida) Post No. 85 nominates Legionnaire Ed Dornbush for high honors as a non-professional blood donor. Beginning in 1940, Legionnaire Dornbush has given 104 pints of his own blood, and is still going strong. As Director of the blood banks of the Legion, Elks, Jewish War Veterans and Army and Navy Union, he was the prime mover in obtaining more than 6,000 pints of blood for the Armed Forces during WW2...Legionnaire John Glesener on Wednesday, February 1st, attended the 500th consecutive meeting of Timber City Post No. 75, Maquoketa, Iowa, when the Post threw a party in his honor, with gifts and citations. He is a charter member of the Post and has attended every meeting since January, 1920, though for six years he had a 48 mile round trip to make it. A Past Commander, he has served in nearly every office of his unit; has attended 4 National Conventions and 12 Department Conventions.

* * * *

Another record for attendance and devotion to the Legion is that of Martin F. Schuster, Jr., who has attended every one of the twice-a-month meetings of Hinsdale (Illinois) Post No. 250 since its organization in 1919. Always active in Post affairs, he has served as honor guard to the national colors every time the flag left the Post quarters for public appearances and funerals... Sergeant Joyce Kilmer Post No. 55, Brooklyn, New York, has purchased a building for a permanent home in the heart of Flatbush, Brooklyn... Thomas A. Edison Post No. 187, Detroit, Michigan, was host to vets from the Dearborn VA Hospital at the Post's annual all-star sports night on January 24. Detroit's all-city high school football players were feted and presented awards by bigtime sport stars... Colonel Richard G. Andrew, 3905 Empire Ave., Burbank, California, is compiling a history of the 162nd Aircraft Control and Warning Group. Needs unit histories and information about service of predecessor wartime organizations: 599th, 598th and 696th Signal Aircraft Warning Battalions, all in service in the Pacific.

JIM BOYLE HONORED FOR DEVOTION TO THE LEGION

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More than 400 men and women from all walks of life gathered at Bourque-Lanigan Post's new home at Waterville, Maine, on the night of February 14 to pay tribute to James L. Boyle, who has served as Adjutant of the Maine Department of the American Legion since its organization in 1919.

Adjutant Boyle's record as a Legionnaire goes back to the Paris Caucus. He was Secretary of the Maine delegation at the St. Louis Caucus in May, 1919, and returned to his Pine Tree State to take over as Adjutant to spark the new organization into life. On "Jim Boyle Night," nearly 60 dignitaries of church, State and the Legion lauded the old-timer for his 31 years of unselfish devotion to the Legion, the veterans, and to community, State and Nation.

Jefferson Post No. 15, Louisville, Kentucky, in addition to its highly successful Job Clinic, has for nearly two years been operating a Public Speaking Class. The club, known as the "Speak Easy Class," meets every Thursday evening, restricted to Post members, when each member delivers an oration of not more than 7 minutes — subjects range from Americanism, current topics, the gooneybird to the sex life of the ant. The oratorical fireworks are followed by a general critique... Federal Employees, New York Port of Embarkation Post

No. 1773 is a new comer to the New York Legion. Membership is limited to the Federal employees of the Brooklyn Army Base... All the male employees of the Myerstown (Pennsylvania) Hosiery Mills are veterans of WW2; 40 percent have combat disabilities.

* * * *

Frankfort (Kentucky) Post No. 7 is the proud possessor of a 7-foot high, 22-foot long mural painting by George Gray depicting a scene in the fighting career of Lieut. Samuel Woodfill, 60th Infantry, Kentucky's outstanding WW1 hero. The mural was commissioned by General Leslie Kincaid and for 10 years hung in the lobby of the Capitol Hotel in Frankfort. Given to the Post, it has been framed and now hangs in the main auditorium of the Legion home ... Evanston, Illinois, dedicated its War Memorial at Fountain Square on Armistice Day, in conjunction with the annual service which have been sponsored by Evanston Post No. 12 for 31 years. The Legion unit cooperated in planning, raising funds and building the memorial. Dedicated to the dead of all wars, the names of all Evanston men who lost their lives in the Civil, Spanish-American and both World Wars are carved on the walls.

* * Edwin C. Creeger, Jr., Post No. 168, Thurmont, Maryland, has organized a walking blood bank. Every member has been typed and is ready to respond to calls - and lives have been saved ... Grants Pass (Oregon) Post No. 28 has presented an electric autoette for the use of patients to Camp White Hospital at Medford. The autoette, powered by electric batteries, enables crippled vets to travel about the hospital corridors ... Gallatin Post No. 14, Bozeman, Montana, has on its rolls 6 WW1 fathers with 30 years of consecutive Legion membership, who have 6 WW2 sons, all 5 year members. They are Albert H. Buettner, Sr., and Jr.; Floyd L. Dye and Robert F. Dye; George A. Glueckert and Albert J. Glueckert: James A. Kiefer and James Bernard Kiefer; Don M. Langohr, Sr., and Jr., and Dr. Charles E. Whitehead and Donald E. Whitehead.

On February 13th The American Legion honored the memory of Mexico's Heroes of Independence when Legionnaire Nathaniel Spear, New York City, representing the organization, placed a wreath at the imposing Independence Monument in Mexico City. The Cuerpo de Defensores de la Republica Mexicana, veterans organization, participated in the ceremony. Legionnaire Spear, Department Commander Andres J. du Bouchet, Jr., National Executive Committeeman Roscoe B. Gaither and other Legionnaires were received by President Aleman on the following day ... In colorful ceremonies conducted by Legionnaires from neighboring towns, Colonel Louis Dwight Barnes Post was organized at Lanesboro, Massachusetts, as the 17th Legion unit in the county. Past National Commander James F. O'Neil, Manchester, New Hampshire, installed the new officers.

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATON SENDS STAMPS TO VETERAN

A couple of years ago a veteran stamp collector visited a friend in a Michigan hospital for veterans. He talked with his friend, but as he passed through the wards he noticed a number of patients working with and studying their meager collections of used stamps—some advanced in philately, others just beginners. A talk with some of these beginners gave the visitor the germ of an idea.

Why not set up a systematic source of supply of used stamps for these men?

The visitor was Frank M. Ruhl, now in the Civil Service division of the Army at the Detroit, Michigan, Arsenal. Single-handedly he set about obtaining a supply of stamps from large corporations in the Detroit area and elsewhere. He wrote dozens of letters in long-hand to business organizations which normally receive letters and packages from all over the world. The sincerity of the hand-written letters had an appeal, and it was but a short time until the stamps began to come in almost by bales. It grew beyond the capacity of one man to handle, but there were plenty of volunteers from the home St. Clair Shores. Michigan, Legion Post, and from other Legion units, from a church group and unaffiliated stamp enthusiasts. The outfit took a name - Veterans Stamp Com-

The outfit had no funds to maintain an office. Henry Ford II, contributed a typewriter; the U. S. Army gave a desk, chair and some filing cabinets, and business concerns added to the equipment. An office was set up in one of Ruhl's spare bedrooms, where the volunteers meet to sort packages, and send the stamps out to the hospitals.

TRIBBY SETS GOAL FOR NEW SAVINGS BOND DRIVE

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Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder has announced a nationwide Savings Bond campaign to run from May 15 through July 4, to be known as the Independence Drive. The symbol will be the Liberty Bell and the slogan: "Save for Independence; Buy U. S. Savings Bonds."

J. Nelson (Jack) Tribby, Chairman of the Legion's National Savings Bond Committee, is readying an aggressive campaign for the sale of Bonds through the Legion organization. "Every member buy a Bond," will be the Legion's slogan. National Commander Craig has asked all Department Commanders to appoint Department Bond Chairman and to send their names to Chairman Tribby (Room 212, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.) as soon as possible.

"If every Legionnaire buys one \$25 bond during this drive—and as many more as convenient—it will make a very sizeable dent in the national quota," Chairman Tribby told the members of an organization meeting at Washington.

POST CARDS AVAILABLE FOR RELIGIOUS PROMOTION



Above is pictured one of two special post cards which have been issued to aid Posts in calling the attention of all people to the need for religion in today's troubled world. A second post card, bearing the caption "No child has a chance who hasn't been taught to pray and love God," is not pictured here. The post cards are available from National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, Indianapolis 6, Indiana, at \$1.00 per 100. The cards are printed in color.

Very soon the Veterans Stamp Committee was sending out 200,000 stamps a month to thirty veterans' hospitals in all parts of the country. Dozens of the largest corporations are sending supplies—coming from such outfits as Hudson Motors, General Motors, Firestone Rubber, International Business Machines, DuPont, and insurance companies—but there is never enough to fill the demand.

The committee needs stamps of all kinds, U. S. and foreign, Red Cross Christmas seals. Don't throw stamps away—some disabled veteran can use them. Just send them to Frank M. Ruhl, Veterans Stamp Committee, 21635 Bon Heur, St. Clair Shores, Detroit, Mich.

SPECIAL MATERIAL TO AID "GO TO CHURCH" MOVEMENT

National Commander George N. Craig has urged the American people to join together in a nation-wide appeal for divine guidance in this period of both world and domestic crises.

The week of April 16th has been set aside for this all-out program with the hope that the week will mark a continuing rededication of faith in God.

Our National Chaplain, the Reverend Edward J. Carney, O.S.A., has asked Department Chaplains of The American Legion to aid in organizing and carrying out the program. Commander Craig in announcing the appeal called upon all Posts of The American Legion and all Units of the Auxiliary to lead the way in communities throughout the land in making religion the guiding force of every day life.

Special publicity material has been

Special publicity material has been prepared to assist Posts in carrying on local programs. News stories for local release, mats, and suggested Post activities may be obtained without charge from National Public Relations Division, The American Legion, Indianapolis.

Two post cards, emphasizing the importance of religion, have been issued and are available at \$1.00 per 100 from National Emblem Sales. The American Legion, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA JANUARY 31, 1950

ASSETS

Cash on hand and on deposit\$1,550,849.07 Receivables 249,445.58 Inventories 424,671.75 Invested Funds 961,740.96 Permanent Trusts:
Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund\$ 253,185.17 Employees' Retirement
Trust Fund 1,054,286.59 1,307,471.76
Real Estate, less depreciation 260,534.17
Furniture and Fixtures, less
depreciation 267,125.11
Deferred Charges
\$5,089,743.11
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED REVENUE
AND NET WORTH
Current Liabilities 152,904.36
Funds restricted as to use 527,334.16
Deferred income 1,453,206.89
Permanent Trusts:
Overseas Graves Decoration
Trust 253,185.17
Employees' Retirement
Trust 1,054,286.59 1,307,471.76
Net Worth:
Restricted Capital:
Reserve Fund.\$ 739,580.76
Restricted
Fund 13,023.14 Reserve for construction of
Washington
office 320.367.71
Real Estate 80.000.00 1.152,971.61
Surplus 97,766.96
Excess of Income over Ex-
pense 1 Month 398,087.37 495,854.33
1.648.825.94

\$5,089,743.11

COMRADES IN DISTRESS

301 Port Co., 518th Port Bn. — Wilgus Thomas, this outfit, needs statements from his service comrades John Kellogg, Wm. Baker, John Cobbler and Angelo Fazio, Write Edward C. Mikol, Service Officer, Roseland Post No. 49, American Legion, 1112 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Troop C, 14th Cav., Ft. Stotsenberg, P. I.—
Need to locate old timers 1st Sgt. Tom Feeney, (ex-Boston, Mass.) Capt. Pope, Capt. Gray, Lt. Norton, who were with outfit between years 1907-10. Statements needed. John H. Foley, 329 Sheffield Ave., Aliquippa, Pa.

Rhaes Army (Truck) School, Kansas City, Mo.—Will anyone who attended this school between August 14 and September 27, 1918, please write to Don Soles, Samaritan Hospital, Ashland, Ohio. Statements needed. 301 Port Co., 518th Port Bn. - Wilgus Thomas,

August 14 and September 27, 1918, please write to Don Soles, Samaritan Hospital, Ashland, Ohio. Statements needed.

Co. F. 7th Inf., 28th Div. — Co. B, 110th Inf., 3rd Div., (WW1) — Urgently need to hear from service comrades of my late husband. Albert Lernard Frandscn, (called Whity), particularly Jim Cheeseman, probably Missouri, and Louis Peck, probably New York City, or anyone who knows of his hospitalization, and bombing of hospital. Mrs. Hazel Mae Frandsen, 3427 W. Kiowa, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Battery A, 355th F. A. Bn., Camp McCoy, Wis.—Will James R. Klwainski and Frederick G, Cross please write. Your statements needed. Steve B. Dulak, 375 N. Division St., Stevens Point, Wis.—Co. C, 802nd S.S. Regt., Ft. Monmouth, N. J.—Need statement to establish claim; will Capt. Dalton Newfield, 1st Sgt. Jasio, T/Sgt. Anderson or others who remember my condition when placed on limited service in 1942, please write Wallace C. Williamson, Box 58, Citronelle, Ala. Co. G, 413th Regt., 104th Div. — Anyone who served with this outfit between Dec. 1, 1944, and April 14, 1945, who remembers the condition of my stomach please write. Claim pending. Willie D. Frady, Box 98, Horatio, Ark.

U.S.S. Bexar — Myrl D, Scott, recently deceased, was injured on this vessel while enroute to Japan; struck on back by table in ward room. His widow needs to contact witnesses, particularly S1/c John Blechl, U.S.S. Bexar, and Paul Lynn, ex-Lampassas, Tex. Write Earle W. Stark, Dept. Adjt., The American Legion, 3205 E. Central Ave., Albuquerque, N. Mex.

4th Pioneer Bn., 4th Marine Div. — Need statement of men who were with me on Iwo Jima: Corp. Kircher, ex-St. Louis, Mo.; Sgt. Ramburg, &-Seattle, Wash. Claim pending, please write. Charles R. Pomeroy, 377 Harbor Road, San Francisco, Cal.

San Fernando, Pampamga, P. I. — Urgently needs to locate Wendell Morgan, a prisoner of war at above station in May, 1942. Claim pending, Quirino Q. Eusebio, San Fernando, Pampanga, P. I.

Group 4, Navy 311 FM.F. — Anyone who remembers when I was hit in back b

needs to locate Wendell Morgan, a prisoner of war at above station in May, 1942. Claim pending. Quirino Q. Eusebio, San Fernando, Pampanga, P. I.

Group 4, Navy 311 F.M.F. – Anyone who remembers when I was hit in back by jack hammer on Johnson Island, particularly Robert Miller, who was operating jack hammer, please write. Albert L. Jackson, Kellerton, Iowa.

Waldron Field, Corpus Christi, Tex. – (U. S. Navy) – Need to locate Maurice B. Teague or anyone who knows his whereabouts. Important; concerning claim. Elven Van Doren, 904 Palmwood, Delta, Ohio.

Barnes General Hospital, Vancouver, Wash. – Calling for Capt. Sugar, who was at this station in May, 1943. Please write Clifford G. Boyer, County Service Officer, Mullen, Neb. Urgent; statement needed for veteran.

Coast Guard, Government Island, Alameda, Cal. – Need to contact Mr. Turner, BM2/c, Co. 9-B2, this station, latter part of 1943. Claim for disability pending. Boyd Lambert, Afton, Wyo.

7th Recon Sq., 1st Cav. Div., Fort Bliss, Tex. — Want to contact Capt. Wilmerding, Capt. Tibore, M.D., Corp. John Miller for statements, Please write Merlin Paul Wright, 533 Clayton St., Stan Francisco 17, Cal.

318th Engineers, 6th Div. — Will anyone in this outfit who knows about my operation please write. Hubert E. Ericson, Barracks 2, 78-164, Wadsworth, Kans., or Mrs. Marie Ericson, 317 N. 19th St., St. Joseph, Mo.

19th Ambulance Co., Med Det. (WW1) — Men who knew me in service please write; need help to establish claim; Lt. A. J. McCarey, Lt. A. E. Kestervelt, Lt. R. E. Cloward, Sgt. George B. Kaufman, Corp. Melvin R. Hartman, Cook Grover C. Stringer, PFC Jesse M. Biddle. Address Herman C. (Tuck) Richmond, R. 1, Trammel, Ky. Marine Det., San Juan, Puerto Rico — While serving with this detachment in November, 1943, Roland G. Hanson, Jr., was attacked and suffered severe head injuries, necessitating long hospitalization. Claim pending; statements needed, particularly from Ugo L. Mazzello, Clarence E. Davis, Samuel Critzner, Robert Doughty, John L. Donahue, Jack Gilma

from comrades relative to back injury while in boot training in August, 1926; particularly Pvts. Wallace T. Anderson, Grogan, Links, James Mansion. Write Floyd F. Brooks, Rt. 1, Thomaston, Ga. Troop C, 1st Cav., Forrest Station, 1916 – Anyone who remembers incident of horse falling and realling aver me better dragging me by stirrung.

rolling over me, later dragging me by stirrup, please write. Lloyd Rivia, 910 Stark St., Wausau,

please write. Lloyd Rivia, 910 Stark St., Wausau, Wis.

Co. G, 168th Inf., 42nd Div. (WW1) – Statements needed from men who were with me on or about October 12, 1918, during gas attack in Argonne, especially Corp. McCormick or the sergeant (name unknown) who took me to the field medics. Harvey L. (Tex) Maddox, Box 881, Seguin, Texas.

66th A.A.U., and 502nd Bn., 101st Airborne Div. – Edward L. Gordon, who served in both outfits, need statements to support claim; anyone who knew him please write; especially in 66th Cpl. Bunkr, 1st Sgt. Titisful and Sgt. Williams; in 502nd Bn., S/Sgts. Sholtz, Nash, Fisher, Hammon and Cpl. Lytile. Write W. S. Hoshal, Service Officer, DAV, Little Rock, Ark.

39th Bn., U.S. Guards, (WW1) – Need statement from service comrades, especially those with me at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, in 1918, when I was in hospital with yellow fever. Claim pending. Richard W. McCoy, R 4, South 1st St., Central City, Ky.

me at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, in 1918, when I was in hospital with yellow fever. Claim pending. Richard W. McCoy, R 4, South 1st St., Central City, Ky.

Co. H, 16th Inf., 1st Div. (WW1) — Want to hear from men who were with me in summer of 1919, post duty in Germany, or anyone who can furnish address of Lt. Bellal, M.D. Claim pending. James R. Lawrence, North Tazewell, Va.

36th General Hospital, France — Urgently need to locate Capt. R. C. Snyder, M.D., nerve and brain specialist at this station. Write Hilton E. Thompson, Sylvarena, Miss.

U.S.S. Menkar (AK 123) — Statement needed from men who know of my hospitalization aboard ship in 1944-45. Manuel C. Bartlett, Box 365, Newcastle, Wyo.

Motor Car Co. 1, Camp Joseph E. Johnston, Jacksonville, Fla., (WW1) — Statements needed from men who served with me to establish disability claim, especially Cpl. Charles Burkhardt and Lt. Charles F. Lester. Write Dr. Dewey Ganzel, VA Hospital, Lyons, N. J.

Troop C, 15th Cavalry—Urgently need to locate men from this outfit who served at Camp Maxey, Texas, prior to October 22, 1943. Claim pending. William R. Baumer, care Clifford Goes, 209 Fourth Ave., New York 3, N. Y.

40th Field Hospital, U.S. and ETO, and 199th Medical Dispensary, Belgium and France — Need statement to support claim for eye condition and deafness; will anyone from above outfit who remembers me and my operations and treatment please write. Louis M. Davids, Box 4455, Brookland Sta., Washington, D. C.

311th Inf., 78th Div., Camp Butner, N. C.— Need statements about back injury incurred about June 1, 1943, on obstacle course; will men who know me please write. Dale Brantley, Gen. Del., Broken Bow, Okla.

Co. I, 47th Inf., (WW1) — The late Orlo Gehr was gassed in the Argonne; his widow needs help to establish her claim for pension. Anyone who can tell her about the incident and later hospitalization please write Mrs. Orlo Gehr, RD 6, Meadville, Pa.

Training Bn., Quantico, Va. (WW2) — Urgently need to locate anyone who served with me at this station, or from

Meadville, Pa.
Training Bn., Quantico, Va. (WW2) - Urgently need to locate anyone who served with me at this station, or from Quinn, Henderson and Bcyeski of the Administrative School. Claim pending. James E. Farrell, 10 Burns St., Lowell, Mass.
VII Corps Artillery, Artern, Germany - Will anyone who served with me at this post in May, 1945, who remembers my fall from line trucks please write. Charles G. McMillian, Smithville, Mo. Naval Air Station, Port Lyautey, Morocco - Need statements from men who know of my back injury while loading ammunition in March, 1943. Address George Mollette, 509 Nobel St., Los Angeles 22, Cal.
Camp Herbert Smart, Macon, Ga. - Need to contact men who knew PFC Clifford F. Melzer, cook, at this station. Statements needed to establish claim. Write Bernard A. Scheer, Veterans Service Officer, Gaylord, Minn.
Co. F, 4th Div. Supply Train - Statements needed; will anyone who served overseas with this unit, 1918-19, please write William Coffey, 13916 Frankfort, Detroit 13, Mich.

PLEASE!! - This column is reserved for the exclusive use of veterans who need to contact service comrades to obtain statements to support or establish claims for injuries and disabilities. We can not print notices about missing persons, notices to renew social contacts, or notices designed to build up mailing lists for unit associations or societies. Also, PLEASE, print all names to be used in a "Comrades in Distress" item - handwritten copy is subject to error.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

Society of the 1st Division - 32nd annual re-union, WW1 and 2, New York City, August 25-26; headquarters New Yorker Hotel. Details and other information from C. M. Eymer, Executive Secre-tary, Box D, Ocean Beach Sta., San Diego 7, Cal. 2nd (Indian Head) Division - 29th annual re-union, Kansas City, Mo., July 6-8; headquarters Hotel Continental. Information from Robert C. Barr, National Secretary-Treasurer, 116 N. 3rd St., Camden 2, N. J.

union, Kansas City, Mo., July 6-8; headquarters Hotel Continental. Information from Robert C. Barr, National Secretary-Treasurer, 116 N. 3rd St., Camden 2, N. J.
4th (Ivy) Division, New England Chapter—Annual spring reunion and dinner dance, Boston, Mass., April 22, at Hotel Sheraton. Info and reservations from Ben Pollock, 4th Div. Assn. Office, 25 South St., Boston 2, Mass.
6th (Red Star) Infantry Division—Annual convention at Minneapolis, Minn., July 20-22; headquarters Curtis Hotel. Information from Joseph E. Scheinbloom, 810 Holly Ave., St. Paul 5, Minn. 9th Infantry Division Association—5th annual reunion at Chicago, Ill., July 13-15; headquarters Sherman Hotel. Details from 9th Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 1704, Washington 12, D. C.
12th Armored (Hellcat) Division—4th annual reunion, Columbus, Ohio, September 2-3; headquarters Neil House. Information from Wm. W. Hawkins, Convention Chairman, 1086 Geneva Ave., Columbus 8, Ohio.
30th (Old Hickory) Infantry Division—4th annual reunion, Memphis, Tenn., June 15-17. Details from John P. Carbin, P. O. Box B, Bergen Sta., Jersey City, N. J., or James E. Melton, 364 Alexander, Memphis, Tenn.
35th (Santa Fe) Infantry Division—Annual reunion at St. Louis, Mo., June 9-10; President Truman, (Capt., Btry D, 129th F.A.), will be principal speaker at dedication of Jefferson National Memorial Expansion, as part of reunion program. Memorial Expansion, as part of reunion

Program.

Rainbow (42nd) Division Association — 32nd

Rainbow (42nd) Division Association — 32nd annual reunion, Detroit, Mich., July 12-15; head-quarters Book-Cadillac Hotel. Information from Wilbur M. Brucker, General Reunion Chairman, Penobscot Bldg., Detroit 26, Mich.

80th (Blue Ridge) Infantry Division — Both World Wars — 31st national reunion, Harrisonburg, Va., August 3-6. Details from 80th Division Veterans Assn., 535 5th Ave., Pittsburgh 19, Pa., or R. L. Stultz, 224 N. Main St., Harrisonburg, Va. 104th (Timberwolf) Infantry Division — Annual convention at Pittsburgh, Pa., September 2-4. George H. Wagner, President, 13 E. Adams St., Allentown, Pa.; Howard S. Bedney, Secretary-Treasurer, 140-10 Franklin Ave., Flushing, L. I., N. Y.

Utilities Detachment of 1918—Spring frolic at Minneapolis, Minn., April 15. Contact Ray H. Luther, 5317 Park Ave., Minneapolis 17, Minn.

Utilities Detachment of 1918—Spring frolic at Minneapolis, Minn., April 15. Contact Ray H. Luther, 5317 Park Ave., Minneapolis 17, Minn. 2325 SCU, South Post, Fort Meyer, Va.—Reunion, all personnel, Hotel Commodore, New York City, April 29, Details from R. Gullian, Ulster Park, N. Y.

Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor—5th anual convention. Pittsburgh, Pa. May 5-7; head-

Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor — 5th annual convention, Pittsburgh, Pa., May 5-7; head-quarters William Penn Hotel. Info from Frank J. Margiotto, Secretary, Room 426, Walker Bldg., 120 Boylston St., Boston 16, Mass.

121st Infantry, 8th Infantry Division — Annual reunion, Macon, Ga., May 27. Information from B. L. Kersey, Jr., 488 First St., Macon, Ga. U.S.N. Armed Guards, (WW2) — 1st reunion at old Brooklyn AG. Center, 52nd St. and 1st Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., on May 27. Details from Bill Monnot, 428 E. 136th St., Bronx 54, New York City.

Bill Monnot, 428 E. 136th St., Bronx 54, New York City.

34th Engineers, (Both World Wars) — 16th annual reunion, Louisville, Ky., September 2-4; headquarters Seelbach Hotel. Information from Alfred Koch, President, 257 Virginia Ave., Dayton, Ohio, or George Remple, Secretary, 2523 N. Main St., Dayton, Ohio.

Co. E, 115th Inf., 29th Inf. Div. (Both WWs) — Reunion, Elkton, Md., June 24-25, at Armory or Legion Home, Info from Paul C. Dennis, 104 Stockton St., Elkton, Md.

60th Seabee Battalion — Annual reunion, Alliance, Ohio, September 2-3; headquarters Lexington Hotel. Details from William Meltzer, 1025 S. Union Av., Alliance, Ohio.

Battery B, 55th Artillery, AEF, (WW1) — 26th annual banquet. Hotel Manger, Boston, Mass., April 15, Contact Frederick J. Milliken, Adjutant, 12 Puritan Ave., Dorchester, Mass.

Paris Post No. 1 in New York — Anniversary dinner-dance at Tramer Restaurant, 1 W. 52nd St., New York City, April 29th. Info from Jack Specter, 180 Riverside Drive, New York 24, N. Y. 63rd Naval Construction Bn. — 3rd annual reunion, St. Louis, Mo., September 2-4; headquarters Hotel Chase, Details from Ray Palmer, 5333 Colton Dr., Normandy 21, Mo.

474th (AW) Bn. AAA—Annual reunion, Philadelphia, Pa., June 3. Contact Stephen W. Sirino, 6526 Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia 31, Pa.

LST 316 — 3rd annual reunion, Pittsburgh, Pa., September 29-October 1. Contact Eugene Majetic, 144 Park Rd., Ambridge, Pa., or Eugene Smith, RD 1, Sligo, Pa.

3rd Port Transportation Corps Assn. — 4th annual reunion, New York City, May 6-7; head-31th Engineers, (Both World Wars) - 16th an-

(Continued on page 36)

Legion Will Produce All-Star Musical Revue; "Red, White and Blue" To Have All-Vet Cast

The American Legion, getting into the show business for the first time in its 31 years, has signed up as backer of one of the greatest post-war musical revues. The show, now being readied in Hollywood, will utilize veteran talent drawn from all parts of the countryan all-vet company.

After some months of negotiations, National Commander George N. Craig has announced that a contract underwriting the project to the extent of \$300,000 has been signed. The contract was made with LeRoy Prinz, veteran Warner Brothers director, and Owen Crump, Hollywood producer, who will bring the talent together, arrange for the "book," and turn out a lavish revue entitled "Red, White and Blue." The direct purpose of the show is to produce funds for the Legion's rehabilitation work, Commander Craig said.

The cast of 100 or more, including musicians, will be selected from the ranks of former service men and women, GIs, WACs, WAVES, SPARS, and Lady Marines. A nation-wide talent search will be conducted to find the most gifted veterans of both World Wars, including disabled veterans in hospitals throughout the land.

It is expected that the cast will also include featured appearances of such guest stars as Bob Hope, Jack Benny, and other troupers who especially distinguished themselves in wartime service, both as entertainers and with the Armed Forces.

Los Angeles Premiere

Designed as a peacetime successor to such wartime hits as "This Is The Army," and "Winged Victory," the revue will have its formal opening in Los Angeles next October as the climax of the Legion's 32nd annual National Convention, which will be held in that city. It will then travel by special train to Washington, D. C., for a tour opening. After that, it is planned to have the show tour the United States and later visit London and Paris and possibly Berlin. The super production is being built with an eye on the Hollywood side by expert movie men. After completion of the tour a movie will be made.

The "book," songs and sketches for "Red, White and Blue," will be written by established New York and Hollywood writers, some of whom have already requested assignments. While it will be an all-veteran cast with Legion backing, the revue itself will not have a war

The contract provides that Prinz and Crump are to be the directing-producing team, that one-third of the \$300,000 underwriting cost is to be put up by the 49 continental Departments of the Legion, and that the sum of \$50,000 is to be underwritten by the National organization of the American Legion Auxiliary.

"We are doing this in a great causethe cause of our rehabilitation program," National Commander Craig said. "All revenue derived from the production will go into an American Legion endowment fund created to provide income for our rehabilitation activities."

Hollywood Post Headquarters

Headquarters for "Red, White and Blue" have been established in the club house of Hollywood Post No. 43, 2035 North Highland Avenue, where work on the big show is now well under way. The entire second floor of the clubhouse has been taken over and special rehearsal and audition rooms have been set up.

The stage of the clubhouse auditorium is of size to serve for rehearsals of the production numbers in which the full cast of 100 veterans will appear.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

(Continued from page 35)

quarters Park-Sheraton Hotel. Info from Archie C. Harshaw, 5011 Osage Ave., Philadelphia 43, Pa. 26th General Hospital Assn. (WW2) — 1st annual reunion, Boston, Mass., May 26-28; head-quarters Parker House. Reservations and information from Andrew J. Menzia, Secretary-Treasurer, 79 Middle St., Lowell, Mass.

Tobyhanna Reunion (487th Base Hdqrs.; Air Base Sqdrn., and 4111th AAF Base Unit) — 4th

annual reunion, Scranton, Pa., September 2-4; headquarters Hotel Jermyn. All personnel at base invited. Write O. C. Lance, 332 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 4, Ill.

Batteries D and E, 64th CAC, (WW1) – Reunion, Dayton, Ohio, June 17-18; headquarters Van Cleve Hotel. Contact Charles E. Hohm, 70 E. Hillcrest, Dayton, Ohio, or C. W. Abbott, RR 1, Miamisburg, Ohio.

U.S.S. Pettit, (DE 253) – Reunion, Boston, Mass., August 19-20. Write James P. Boyle, 1406 W. Gibson St., Scranton, Pa. Companies G and H, 306th Infantry (Both WWs) – Joint reunion dinner, 77th Division Clubhouse, 28 E. 39th St., New York City, May 27. Info from George W. Allen, at 77th Div. Club. WAC Vetcrans Association – 4th WAC Convention and 5th annual SWPA, reunion, Philadelphia,

war veterals association - 4th war conven-tion and 5th annual SWPA reunion, Philadelphia, Pa., August 18-20; headquarters Benjamin Frank-lin Hotel. Info and reservations from R. Charlotte Schneller, 4719 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia 20,

Pa.
Rich Field Aviation School, (WW1), Waco,
Chicago, Ill., August

Rich Field Aviation School, (WW1), Waco, Texas – Annual reunion, Chicago, Ill., August 18-19. Contact Wm. E. Beigel, 312 Northcrest Dr., No. Kansas City 16, Mo. 340th Ordnance Depot Co., (old Co. E, 58th QM) – Reunion, Santa Cruz, Cal., July 1-4; head-quarters Casa Del Ray Hotel. Contact Don Alpaugh, P.O. Box 135, Watsonville, Cal. 555th Engineer Heavy Pon. Bn. – 2nd annual reunion, Green Bay, Wis., September 3. Contact Donald D, Krawczyk, 1034 Cherry St., Green Bay, Wis.

Wis.
325th F.A., 84th Division, (WW1) – Reunion,
Eldorado, Ill., June 25. Info from Paul Moore,
Secretary, 802 (A) West Poplar St., West Frank-

Endorado, In., Julie 25. Into Irom Faul Motte, Secretary, 802 (A) West Poplar St., West Frankfort, Ill.

23rd Engineers Assn. of New England (WW1)

— Annual reunion, Boston, Mass., April 29th, at Manger Hotel. Write Carl W. Sterl, 27 Clement St., Worcester, Mass.

15th Engineers Veterans Assn. (Both WWs)

31st annual reunion, Pittsburgh, Pa., April 29; headquarters Fort Pitt Hotel. Details from Wm. H. Turner, Secy., 238 Eighth Ave., Laurel Gardens, Pittsburgh, Pa.

88th MP Co. (ex-Cos. A and B, 313th MP, WW1)

— Reunion, Lake of the Ozarks, September 2-3. Details from George E. Weis, Secy., 514 Woodlawn, Muscatine, Iowa.

Co. A, 112th Inf., 28th Div., (WW2)

— Reunion in June at Philadelphia, Pa. Write J. Schilling, 6044 N. American St., Philadelphia 20, Pa.

694th F.A. Bn. — Reunion, Scranton, Pa., August 5. Details from Ciccotti's, 103 Lacka. Ave., Scranton, Pa.

POST SIGNS UP FLOCK OF BROTHERS AND ONE SISTER



Theodore Roosevelt Post No. 4, Vineland, New Jersey, claims some sort of a record in its 1950 membership effort, according to Membership Chairman Anthony Luisi. Included in the class for 1950 were the five Snyder brothers who were obligated at one ceremony, and in another were the six Pedersen brothers and one sister. In the upper panel are, left to right: Andrew Snyder, Army vet, and his four brothers, Frank, Warren, Charles and Louis, all of whom served in the Navy in WW2.

In the lower panel, same order, are Post Commander Milton Taylor, and the Pedersens: Martin, August, Walter, Mrs. Esther Pedersen Souder, a Wave, Edwin, Elmer and Albert. August served in the Pacific, Albert in the China-Burma-India theater, and the other four in the European theater in WW2.

Family group membership of the Snyders and Pedersens has helped to increase the enrollment in Theodore Roosevelt Post for a total of 850 early in January - an increase of nearly 150 over 1949.

Veterans Newsletter

A DIGEST OF EVENTS WHICH ARE LIKELY. TO BE OF PERSONAL INTEREST TO YOU

April 1950

VA STARTS 6-YEAR WINDUP OF GI TRAINING:

Though veteran training and education provisions of the GI Bill will not expire until 1956, VA is gearing itself for a 6-year job of shutting down that part of the program....Administrator Gray has informed Congress that under new regulations, with certain exceptions, vets may not enter the training program after July 25, 1951....Furthermore, after that date: Trainees may change courses of instruction "only for the most cogent reasons," and (2) once a vet completes a course, he will not be able to enroll in another, even though he may have some school time left under the GI Bill formula.... The 1951 deadline will not affect approximately 1,000,000 men who enlisted or re-enlisted under the Armed Forces Recruitment Acts of 1945 and 1946; those who have been discharged since July 25, 1947, or who are still in service.... The new regs are designed, says VA, to carry out terms of the Veterans Readjustment Act specifying that a vet must start his course within four years after date of discharge or after July 25, 1947, the official termination of the war.

TWO IMPORTANT NSLI COURT DECISIONS:

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals at Chicago, on February 4, upheld the right of a widow to her husband's National Service Life Insurance, although the soldier's parents were named as beneficiaries. .. The widow, Mrs. Dorothy J. Moths, South Bend, Indiana, maintained that letters from her husband stated that he had changed the insurance in her favor....The father of Moths, designated beneficiary, will appeal the ruling.... Two days later the United States Supreme Court held that community property laws of the States are not applicable to payment of beneficiaries of NSLI policies....In other words, the decision simply means that a State law cannot dictate division of benefits when a GI has designated someone other than his wife as beneficiary....This is particularly applicable in States that have community property laws....The case came up from California....Major Leonard O. Wissner died in Army service; his mother was named as beneficiary, instead of his wife (from whom he was estranged)....Mrs. Wissner claimed one-half the benefits under the California law of community property, and the California court upheld her claim....This decision was reversed by the Supreme

EX-POWS WILL GET PAID FOR EACH DAY HELD:

In a sweeping decision, clearing the way for quicker action, the War Claims Commission has held that at no time did the Germans or Japanese at any of their prisoner-of-war camps provide sufficient food for Americans.... That ruling means that automatically U.S. military personnel held as prisoners by the enemy countries will get \$1 subsistence for each day they were prisoners....War Claims Commission, with more than 75,000 claims on hand, is processing about 50 a day on a first come, first served basis....First batch of checks went out in mid-February to 250 ex-POWs....Biggest check in the batch was to Peter B. Marshall, Jr., Phoenix, Arizona, for \$1,368....Smallest for \$67 went to Charles C. Mercer, Sunflower, Kansas.... Money to pay the claims must come out of enemy assets taken over by the Office of Alien Property.

NO-BIAS HOUSING RULE EFFECTIVE:

Racial or religious restrictions on sale or rental of homes financed by Government-insured mortgages are barred by new rules which became effective in mid-February....Both Federal Housing Administration and home loans under the GI Bill administered by VA are covered by the regulations which forbid mortgage insurance on property governed by written covenants restricting ownership or occupancy on the basis of race, color, or creed.... The regulations are not retroactive and will not apply to any mortgages insured by FHA or VA before the effective date....If written covenants are made part of the record of a property deed after the effective date, the Government will lift its insurance on the mortgage and the mortgage holder will be privileged to demand the unpaid balance immediately.

ONCE A COMMY, DEPORTATION ORDERED:

An opinion of far-reaching importance over the entire country was handed down by Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell, of New York, when he ruled that it is constitutional to make an alien deportable for past membership in a subversive organization.... The decision was rendered in the case of Peter Harisiades, a Greek newspaper man and admitted former communist....Judge Leibell ordered him remanded to Ellis Island for deportation....Harisiades came to this country in 1916; joined the communists in 1925, but said he was dropped from membership in 1939 because of a party rule which required that all party members in the United States be citizens.

GOOD, SAFE YEAR -- ONLY 91,000 KILLED:

Last year, 1949, the good ol' U.S.A. scored its best safety record in 50 years....But the cost in dead and injured ran a pretty close second to the battle losses in WW1....Here's the score, according to the National Safety Council: Killed, 91,000; injured, 9,400,000; cost, \$7,200,000,000...Motor vehicle accidents killed 31,500, a 2 percent decline from 1948....However, 1949 traffic accidents caused approximately 1,100,000 non-fatal injuries and destroyed or damaged \$1,100,000,000 worth of property....Home accidents, a close second, killed 30,500, a 3 percent drop....Falls were the chief cause in home accidents, killing 24,200....Burns killed 7,800; drownings, 6,800; and firearms 2,200. ... Only three catastrophes in 1949 took as many as 50 lives each.... They were a hospital fire at Effingham, Illinois; an Arkansas tornado and a plane crash at Washington, D. C.... This is the best record, however, since the Council began keeping tab in 1900.

ARMED FORCES DAY, MAY 20:

The first Armed Forces Day will be observed throughout the nation this year on May 20....Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson selected the day and it has been approved by President Truman.... Symbolic of unification, Armed Forces Day will replace the days formerly observed as Army Day, Navy Day and Marine Corps Day....Legion Posts have been asked to lead in local observance, with "Teamed for Defense" as the official slogan.

ASKS FIRING SQUAD FOR ALL VETERANS:

A bill directing the Defense Department to provide a ten-man firing squad for the funeral of any

American veteran of any American war has been introduced in the House of Representatives....Father of bill is Congressman Russell V. Mack, (Washington), Past Commander of Aberdeen (Washington) Post No. 5, The American Legion....The firing squad under the Mack Bill would be provided under these limitations: (1) When requested by any recognized incorporated veterans' organization; (2) when the burial place is not more than 150 miles from the nearest Army, Navy or Air Corps post; and (3) if personnel is available....Defense Secretary Louis Johnson estimates that 113,846 veterans die annually; that firing squads would be asked for one-half of these funerals....He fixes the cost of \$36 per funeral or a total of \$2,049,228 annually for the 56,930 burials....The Mack firing squad bill is H. R. 7289.

FEWER GIRLS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE:

From wartime peak in July, 1944, when there were 1,106,000 women on Uncle Sam's payroll, the number had dwindled to 408,000 by January 1, 1950....Discontinuance of emergency workers accounts for the reduction to less than half the number in 1944.

THE MARINE CORPS IN WW2:

The Marine Corps has published five official historical monographs dealing with the part that service arm played in WW2....These monographs tell in detail of the battle actions in the Pacific....Other books will carry the story in a complete series...The five available -- and a "must" for old Gyrenes of the jungle -- are The Defense of Wake, (\$1.25); The Battle For Tarawa, (\$1.50); Marines at Midway, (\$.50); Bougainville and the Northern Solomons, (\$2.00), and The Guadalcanal Campaign, (\$4.25)... All are stocked for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at the prices listed...Latest and most pretentious in the series is The Guadalcanal Campaign, 189-page battle narrative, illustrated with combat photographs and 27 fold-in maps.

NEW TYPE OF ARTIFICIAL LEG:

After three years of scientifically controlled testing and development. VA is making the suction socket artificial leg available to eligible veterans who have had leg amputations above the knee of a character which makes its use medically feasible.... More than 500 amputee veterans have been used in the experimental program on the suction socket leg during the past two years.... This aboveknee leg differs from the conventional artificial leg in that it has no pelvic hinge or suspension harness....It is held to the stump by moderate suction created in the closed socket each time the leg is lifted from the ground in walking It is designed to give greater freedom of movement in all directions, appears more like part of the body and does away with the discomfort of the pelvic belt.... The idea of such a leg is nothing new -- it goes back to 1863 when a patent was granted to a New Yorker for a suction socket attachment to be fixed to the amputee's stump by atmospheric pressure....The new limb became available in January.

VA IS TREMENDOUS OPERATION:

The endless stream of human problems, aside from the practical administration of a vast business enterprise, is reflected in the VA annual report for 1949 made by Administrator Carl R. Gray, Jr.... On the "human" side, 15,500,000 personal interviews with veterans, their dependents and beneficiaries were conducted by VA employees....The problms involved benefits administered by VA under laws and regulations -- one of the nation's largest mutual life insurance operations; the greatest mass education and job-training program in the history of any country; death claims, disability claims; GI home and business loans; automobiles for amputees;

"wheel chair" homes for seriously disabled vets, guardianships, and a mass of other details....On the administrative side, VA handled 177,900,000 pieces of mail during the year, more than was received by the entire city of Kansas City, Missouri ... Provided medical care and hospitalization for a daily average of 107,000 veteran patients in VA and non-VA hospitals....Furnished nearly 5,000,000 outpatient medical treatments and more than 763,000 outpatient dental treatments....At end of year had on its rolls 2,313,545 veterans drawing disability compensation, pension or Army retirement pay. In addition, 960,000 dependents of deceased veterans drawing death compensation or pension payments....Had an average of 2,272,000 veterans in education or training under Federal laws administered by VA...Had 7,258,000 National Service Life Insurance policies (WW2), and a total of 500,784 Government Life Insurance policies (WW1) in force at end of year....Handled nearly 300,000 applications for GI home, business or farm loans.... Paid out \$450,000,000 in unemployment allowances and another \$85,000,000 in self-employment allowances under GI Bill during 1949.... In the guardianship program, the number of wards reached a new high of 231,861....Approximately 200,000 employees carried out the 1949 VA program....Total expenditures amounted to \$6,985,493,167, including \$226,000,000 for supplies and equipment for 129 hospitals and 582 other field stations in the United States, its territories, possessions and the Philippine Republic....During the year, the veteran population increased from 18,760,000 to 18,943,000....Living veterans together with their dependents constituted about 40 percent of the national population.

SECOND NSLI DIVIDEND:

Running well ahead of schedule in payment of the big NSLI dividend, VA is looking ahead to payment of second dividend from accumulated surplus in 1951.... This will cover three-year period 1948 to 1951; after that distribution it is believed that insurance stabilization will be so complete that future dividends, if any, will be paid on an annual basis....But expired or lapsed policies will not share in future distribution of surplus; only those policies extending beyond 1948 anniversary date will get a share in 1951.... Amount of dividend will depend on death rate for the period....It has been pointed out that a severe epidemic with high mortality rate could quickly deplete the surplus.... Average or low mortality rate would indicate a cut of something near \$200 for each \$10,000 policy during the three-year period.

MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA CONSIDER WW2 BONUS:

Two State Legislatures, Maryland and Virginia, have WW2 bonus bills under consideration...In Maryland it is a renewal of strong effort made last year, when bill passed one House...Both measures would provide for payment of \$10 per month for home service and \$15 per month for overseas, up to a maximum of \$500...In Maryland, the bill calls for a direct referendum at the November election -- a yes or no vote to decide whether a bonus shall be paid...The Virginia measure differs in that it provides for an amendment to the constitution to make the payment of a bonus to WW2 service men and women possible.

MEDAL FOR RESERVISTS PROPOSED:

An Armed Forces Reserve Medal to be awarded to any person who has completed 10 years of honorable service in reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard is proposed in H. R. 6977....Introduced by Representative Gary Clemente, (New York), the bill is being considered by the Armed Services Committee.

Labor sets an Example

(Continued from page 15)

American workers who had the temerity to stand in the way of the Stalinists and their low plotting and intrigues. Nothing was missed or rejected by the communists from cheap, low slander and character assassination to brutal beatings, vicious frame-ups, and even murder. A favorite communist weapon has been economic terrorism—framing some poor devil out of his job and then literally hounding him from one job to another, with total destitution and hopelessness the ultimate objective.

One such "horrible example" would, needless to say, frighten and intimidate ten thousand others from tangling with the communists. Although never officially enunciated in writing by the communists they did succeed in spreading throughout labor the superstitious folk belief that it was foolhardy and dangerous to oppose the bolsheviks - "they always get their enemies no matter how long they have to wait." No one has ever compiled a list of the unknown victims of communist terror in the labor movement but all experts agree that such a list would run to many tens of thousands. Labor, too, has its "unknown soldiers" who fell in the long, cold wars against subversion and treason.

The well-paid and highly skilled New York furriers were the first A. F. of L. international to fall completely under communist domination. A long drawn out, costly, and bloody general strike in 1926 was the price the workers and industry paid for the communists' first victory on the labor front. The total strike bill ran into several million dollars; many smaller shops were wiped out, some were physically destroyed by roving bands of communist-led gorillas. Physical violence and sadistic beatings were glorified by the communist leaders as "trade union militancy." Whole police districts were bought up and corrupted by either the communists or the employers.

Meanwhile other red termites were busily boring into the chaotic needle trades industry of greater New York. By 1926 the Muscovites had captured the N.Y. Joint Board of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union which then boasted a membership of over 60,000. The inevitable communist inspired industrywide strike was not long in coming.

Communists call these strikes not so much because they crave trouble and excitement or want to financially embarrass the employers but in order to test out the docility of the workers, demonstrate their own militancy and superior strike strategy, and finally to "expose" as "sell out artists" the more conservative and reasonable old line labor leaders. The I.L.G.W.U. strike that summer, like that of the furriers, was a costly fiasco lasting six months and taking some three and a half million dollars out of the pockets of the workers and their friends. The union was rent for over a year with internal dissension and bitterest recriminations as a result of this disastrous strike. The trained and confident communists moved in for the kill. The Red International of Labor Unions would soon have another dead duck to add to its hunting bag.

Then something completely unexpected happened. The garment workers, largely foreign born and radical, turned in fury on their communist misleaders. A little known manager of the Cutters Local No. 10 named David Dubinsky turned out to be a veritable Superman in sweeping back the Russian-first hordes. By the end of 1927 the thoroughly beaten Stalinists threw in the sponge, crawled out of the ring, and set up shop with a small, revolutionary union in opposition. It continued to exist largely on paper until 1935, when the Seventh and last world Congress of the Comintern scrapped all these socalled "paper unions" and ordered their American minions to sneak back into the main labor organizations once more to "bore from within." The I.L.G.W.U. has remained staunchly anti-communist ever since and Dubinsky rose to become its International President and chief thorn in the side of Stalin's commissars in this country

The United Hatters, Cap, and Millinery Workers went through pretty much the same sort of experience. The Amalgamated Clothing Workers also suffered a major invasion of red borers and only sharp and prompt action of the members saved it from being wrecked. Communists trying to seize control with typical red tactics were brought up on charges of union dis-

ruption, found guilty, expelled, and chased out of the industry.

Down through the intervening years practically every union in this country from the fabulously well-paid Screen Actors Guild and non-proletarian American Federation of Teachers to stevedores and seamen has suffered more or less from forays and full scale invasions of fanatical and tireless followers of the Kremlin. Several unions simply collapsed and died as a result of the red plague. Others fought for their lives and threw back Stalin's red fascists. Some, too lazy or apathetic to shake off the red incubus. remain even today in the grip of the commissars, so that eleven internationals are presently being hustled out of CIO by process of trial and expulsion. There are also some bad spots left in the A. F. of L. at local level. With the recent clean-up and crushing defeat of Stalin's Fifth Column in the National Maritime Union, the United Auto Workers, and the Transport Workers Union, only Harry Bridges' International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union and the United Electrical and Radio Workers Union can be said to be important strategic industry-wide groups still in the hands of pro-Soviet leadership. The remaining communistcontrolled internationals are either small or strategically unimportant. The red tide in labor has definitely turned and is rapidly ebbing, with the commissars

WHO ELSE WANTS Better Shaves at Less Cost?



everywhere on the defensive if not on the

But it would be dangerous to underestimate the resiliency of the communists. The red termites, always well financed and even more zealous when on the run, never say die. They are constantly attempting comebacks in unions where they have been squelched. The necessity for unionists to be constantly on their guard against this menace was best exemplified by recent doings in the National Maritime Union.

Regaining control of this salty, swashbuckling outfit would give the red plotred machinations, reported that several government investigating agencies had discovered that secret wartime shipping data had been regularly passed on to the party's national headquarters on the ninth floor of 31 E. 12th Street.

"Conclusive proof that high-priority secrets were steadily turned over to unauthorized persons was assembled by these agencies and transmitted to high military circles in Washington," Mr. Woltman wrote. "No legal steps were ever ordered taken, however, to stop the leaks."

While Washington did nothing, the aroused sailors took action. They swept

Another welcome sign in the ranks of maritime labor was the recent action of Harry Bridges' home local in San Francisco in voting in an administration pledged to combat communist control of the ILWU. If this revolt spreads—there are signs that it will—and the commies are finally driven out, a major victory will have been achieved to free the West Coast waterfront from the red network.

One of the most significant triumphs was achieved with the active support of American labor last November with the launching of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, a field previously monopolized by the Stalinists.

CIO and AFL leaders, both forgetting past differences in the common cause of preserving what freedom is left in the world, journeyed to London where, with laborites from the free nations, they formed this powerful counterforce to the Kremlin-directed World Federation of Trade Unions. And as The New York Times stated editorially, "the new international intends to take the offensive . . . in communism's chosen field."

Formation of the new international, representing more than 50,000,000 workers in 53 nations, left the so-called World Federation of Trade Unions as nothing more than a communist rump outfit. At the 1945 London conference at which the WFTU was founded, American labor leaders found the Russians amiable and anxious to get together with free labor unions. But James B. Carey, Phil Murray's capable assistant in the CIO, later declared:

"This initial Soviet amiability, I since have concluded, was based on two factors: 1. The wartime honeymoon was still in effect, and 2. Soviet foreign policy itself had not crystallized to the point where the Kremlin's stooges within the WFTU could be told exactly what kind of ride they were supposed to take us for."

And what a mad ride that was – zigzagging constantly but always to a red destination. Every Cominform venture was shamelessly promoted by WFTU headquarters in Paris, headed by Louis Saillant, since described by Carey as "a portly, pompous individual who claimed to be a socialist in politics" but who actually looked to Moscow for inspiration.

Even before the guns were stilled the WFTU was peddling anti-American propaganda in wholesale quantities throughout the world. Despite the presence of Americans in WFTU councils, the WFTU had made the Marshall plan its chief bugaboo. Red-directed strikes in France and Italy, called to upset European recovery efforts as a prelude to communist seizures of power, were supported both morally and financially by the WFTU. Soviet agents, known well by the FBI, moved about the world freely, disguised as WFTU representatives. The WFTU was even represented in the United Nations with the original blessing, incidentally, of the convicted perjurer, Alger Hiss, first UN general secretary.

Hoping to save it somehow from complete Soviet domination, CIO leaders clung stubbornly to the WFTU. However, they got nothing but abuse for their efforts. Even the WFTU publication, the so-called



ters once again a stranglehold on much of the nation's shipping, a trump card in Stalin's hand as the cold war gets hotter. Soviet control of the NMU would also provide espionage agents, posing as sailors, a near-foolproof "cover" to operate around the globe. The use of the NMU for spy purposes by red agents has already been exposed by NMU president Joseph Curran.

Big Joe Curran, turning against the reds, who considered him their puppet, charged in 1946 that Joseph Stack, a leading commie in the party's maritime section, was directing a spy system for the purposes of collecting information from CIO seamen shipping in and out of the New York port.

Stack, later ousted as the NMU's New York Port Agent, kept a "regular FBI set of cards in the Port Registration Offices and he gets more information for more things from the members than anyone in any other port in the union," Curran charged.

Soon after, the New York World-Telegram's Frederick Woltman, who won a well-deserved Pulitzer prize for exposing

the commissars out of office, keeping Curran — against whom the bolshies were hurling all sorts of abuse — as top seadog. Since then, for more than three years, Curran has had to wage a day-and-night struggle against red comeback efforts. Late last year when Curran was out of town on union business the reds mustered their waning forces to stage a now-or-never coup.

They invaded the eight-story NMU headquarters in downtown Manhattan, where their goons frightened women office workers, slugged union officers, defied police and seized the building. For two weeks the reds, led by a Moscow-trained hack, staged a reign of terror on West 17th St. Curran, rushing back from Texas, assumed command and drove the red goons out of the building. He defied death threats, painted near his Long Island home, and took the issue to the membership. In a referendum conducted by the Honest Ballot Association, lest there be phoney charges of padding the polls, the members voted overwhelmingly to deny membership to "nazis, fascists and communists.'

Information Bulletin, "became an instrument of violent attack and slander against the CIO and such leaders as Arthur Deakin of England and myself," Carey has since written. The publication made no bones about its belief that the CIO and Carey were part of "a devilish scheme of Wall Street to enslave the free countries of Europe."

Finally Carey had enough. Empowered by a resolution passed at the 1948 CIO convention "to take whatever action in relation to WFTU as will best accomplish CIO policies and objectives," Carey took a walk, leaving the WFTU as nothing more than a blunted tool of the Cominform in its war on free trade unions.

But the free unions in the ICFTU, backed wholeheartedly by the AFL, whose leaders swallowed prejudices

against cooperating with the CIO in the international field, are fighting back. The preamble to the ICFTU constitution states that the ICFTU "will champion the cause of human freedom, oppose and combat totalitarianism and aggression in any form. It pledges solidarity with and support to all working people deprived of their rights as workers and human beings by oppressive regimes."

By "oppressive regimes" the ICFTU made clear, it means Soviet Russia and her growing empire of satellite nations since unhappily bolstered by the teeming millions in red China. The preamble was spelled out to the ICFTU delegates by William Green, who declared that free labor must combat "a worldwide totalitarian conspiracy which aims to foist on the workers of all free countries a system

of economic exploitation and political oppression which would set back labor hundreds of years."

Combating red infiltration and propaganda has become a life-and-death matter for American labor. American labor is not militantly anti-communist because of any academic or abstract reasoning. Bitter experiences with the red plotters, both at home and abroad, have made the CIO as anti-communist as the AFL, which got its lesson early in tangling with the ruthless and fanatical disciples of Marxism-Leninism-Stalinism. Labor, moreover, appears fully capable of setting its own house in order and cleaning its skirts of the slightest taint of the red conspiracy. In this most necessary task all Legionnaires pledge their wholehearted THE END cooperation.

What's New In Vacations

(Continued from page 13)

idea of William P. Wolfe, who is one of New York's largest hotel representatives, might be interesting. The plan, which has the backing of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Grange, offers you a chance to spend your vacation on real farms of 19 States from Maine to Tennessee and as far west as Michigan. For an average of \$30 per week for adults and \$20 for children, farmers who have never before taken guests are opening their homes. The fee includes meals with the farmer's family and an opportunity to ride his horses, grab a dip in the old swimming hole and, if you like, feed the chickens, gather the eggs or milk the cow. A booklet listing 500 farms, their rates, what they offer in food and accommodations may be secured for 25¢ from Farm Vacations, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York. Then you make your own deal with the farm you choose.

F you haven't decided on a vacation site, letters to state tourists bureaus in various state capitals should bring helpful information, and major oil companies are fine sources for vacation suggestions. Airlines, railways and shipping companies will help, and travel agencies offer any type of trip that suits your fancy and pocketbook. The Hotel Red Book, available in hotels and Pullmans, lists rates and accommodations in more than 15,000 hotels.

For travelers one of the best mediums is the American Automobile Association. A non-profit organization dedicated to making travel safer, it offers members (there is a small annual fee) not only the most complete information on travel conditions but if your car breaks down, you receive free repairs and towing service. If you are arrested because of traffic violations or accidents (except in cases of drunken driving or evading responsibility after an accident), bail is arranged. Other free services include securing fishing, hunting or auto licenses, hotel accommodations and tickets for planes, trains, ships. shows or athletic events.

Seasonal attractions of all types are plentiful. If you like rodeos the Southwest, Rocky Mountains and Pacific Northwest will interest you. Beginning with the "Cheyenne (Wyoming) Frontier Days" (July 25-29) and the "Pendleton (Oregon) Round-Up" (August 24-27) they can be found in every State in these regions. One of the most interesting of western festivals is the "Days of '76," in Deadwood, South Dakota. Here during the first week in August they revive the gold-rush days of the Black Hills, and the pageantry includes "The Killing of Wild Bill Hickok" and Indian raids. This is a good vacation buy because even at peak season rooms are available for as low as \$1.75 per day, and luxury accommodations, according to the Chamber of Commerce, are only \$6.

OTHER attractions include the Dairyland Festival in Watertown, New York, the Holland (Michigan) Tulip Festival and the Tyler (Texas) Rose Festival in the "Rose Capital of the World."

Another interesting section is the Berkshires region of Massachusetts and Connecticut. Here, there are 19 state forests and 800 miles of well-stocked trout streams. High point is the Music Festival in July and August at Lenox, Mass. This is a section of old colonial inns, like the Egremont Tavern, South Egremont, Massachusetts, that opened in 1730 and the Berkshire Inn, Great Barrington, where the old William Cullen Bryant House is used for an annex. Information will be furnished by the Berkshire Hills Conference, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

One of the new vacation attractions is Oak Ridge, Tennessee, that has been attracting visitors to see the "Atomic City." And from Knoxville you can drive to Gatlingsburg, Tennessee, the gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, where you can find some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

A CHECK will show that many interesting events in every section come when "off-season" brings its price reduction. Most country fairs are in the fall. In Florida the best tarpon and blue marlin fishing is in late spring and early summer, and surf fishing is best during September and October when the bluefish run. Miami Beach holds big prize summer fishing tourneys. And charter fishing boats are considerably cheaper. In northern Wis-

consin, May, June, September and October are the best fishing months and as in like cases the better guides, who are often reserved by regular peak-season customers, are available. Arizona and other western States hold their round-ups and brandings during October and in Salt Lake City you can ski in the mountains at Alta and swim at Black Rock Beach in the early fall—the season when most local residents take their vacations.

How can you get the best break on reservations?

Joe Adams, Chairman of the Board of the American Hotel Association and owner of the El Comodoro Hotel in Miami, offers some good advice. Adams, who was twice Commander of the Harvey Seeds Post, Miami, and headed the 1948 Legion National Convention in Miami, is a veteran hotel executive who knows as much about vacation problems as anyone in the business.

"Decide where you want to go, make your reservations as far in advance as possible and get a confirmation," says Adams. "Too many travelers wait until they start and then wire, 'Arriving tonight; reserve a double.' The hotel may have no accommodations but the manager has no way to let you know. A good manager will always wire if you'll inform him where you can be reached.

"Don't forget to give complete information as to the type of room desired, number in your party, hour of arrival and approximate length of stay. A manager can only guess whether or not you want double or single beds or don't want accommodations on the thirteenth floor. And don't forget, if price is an item, to state what you want to pay. No legitimate hotel wants to charge you more than you expect to pay.

"The best break in reservations goes to the vacationist who makes his arrangements early. And if you do it now you'll have a better choice of rooms in all price ranges as well as a better chance to get accommodations at popular prices. Remember — the more information you furnish as to exactly what you want the better your chances to be completely satisfied."

THE END

Have We Licked Rheumatism?

(Continued from page 25)

that first epoch-making injection, her joints had been so red, swollen and stiff that she could hardly move without help, and it took grit to keep from crying out when anyone touched her.

She had her injection, but nothing happened! All that day, the pain stabbed away without let-up. The next day, she got another dose; still no improvement. But on the third day, she rolled over in bed. That's all, just rolled over in bed-but without help, without pain. That was only the beginning. After five more days, she left the hospital and went on a shopping expedition. Three hours later, she returned very tired but very happy. And the light in her eyes had nothing to do with bargains.

Behind these simple facts lies a dramatic story.

For years, Dr. Philip Hench had held "peculiar" ideas about rheumatism. Most doctors believed it to be a germ disease like tuberculosis or pneumonia, but he was sure it was due to some change in the chemical reactions taking place in our own bodies. For a long time he had been talking about a mysterious "antirheumatic substance X," which he thought healthy people made normally in their bodies, but arthritic sufferers, for some reason, could not produce in sufficient quantities to prevent their joints from swelling and becoming painful. But of the thousands of chemical compounds made by the glands of the body, which one might be a "substance X"? Like a keen detective, he followed slender clues, which eventually pointed toward the adrenals, little glands located on top of the kidneys.

Back in 1941, he had tried an extract of these glands in a few cases of rheumatism, and it seemed to help; but his brew was too crude, and he didn't have enough to make a scientific test on patients. So when chemists, after years of hard work with their flasks and test-tubes, finally made a larger amount of "cortisone," one of the chemicals of the adrenal gland, Hench was ready to try it. When the young lady in this story turned over in bed, he knew he had found his "antirheumatic substance X."

There was only enough cortisone to treat a handful of patients; but the story was the same in each of the 14 people on whom it was tried. One woman, after a few injections, had her first pain-free day in five years. A middle-aged man who could scarcely walk without crutches or a cane, danced a jig after a few shots.

Don't ask Dr. Hench, or rush to your corner drug-store for cortisone. Unfortunately, there won't be enough to treat America's 7,000,000 arthritis sufferers for a long time. It takes 37 different chemical reactions or steps, requiring many months, to make it; and the basic starting material, bile from slaughtered animals, is scarce. But there's another possibility. Since the adrenals of normal people make all the cortisone their bodies need for protection against rheumatism, isn't there some way to make arthritis sufferers

manufacture their own medicine, too?

Every one of us has a little gland tucked away in the middle of his head called the pituitary, whose job it is to boss the other glands of the body. Let's say you need more secretion from the thyroid gland in your neck. O.K. The pituitary first pours a tiny amount of a special chemical into the blood. When this substance reaches the thyroid, it is stimulated to secrete its special thyroid hormone; and presto! you've got just what you need. It does seem a sort of roundabout way of doing things, but that's the way we're built.

 $\mathbf{0}^{\,\,\mathrm{NE}}$ of the chemicals made by this boss gland, the pituitary, is adrenocorticotropic hormone, which, despite its importance, doesn't mind being called ACTH for short. ACTH's job is to make the outer layer of the adrenal gland do its stuff. Hench reasoned that some arthritic patients probably lacked sufficient ACTH to make their adrenal glands produce cortisone. So he got some ACTH from a meat-packing company and injected it into two women who had suffered from severe rheumatism for years. Within a few days the ACTH apparently made the ladies' adrenal glands produce more cortisone. Their stiff joints limbered up, and pain, swelling, and tenderness were greatly reduced. And what's more, the cortisone they made in a few days with the help of ACTH would have required months of grueling work in a laboratory.

So far, doctors haven't had much ACTH to work with either; but they've had enough to learn that it does wonders in several other chronic diseases as well as rheumatism. In asthma, for example, a few injections have produced complete relief lasting two or three weeks. In hayfever, two days' treatment has stopped attacks for the whole hay-fever season. There are even hints that it may be useful in treating some kinds of high blood pressure and even some mental disorders.

Put there's a catch in this ACTH business, too. It's too complicated to be made by chemists at all. At present, every bit of ACTH in the world has to be borrowed from animals. All day long, girls sit at conveyor belts in our great stockyards, with deft fingers removing the peasized pituitaries from the severed heads of slaughtered hogs.

But getting the pituitaries out and separating the useful half of the gland from the part that contains no ACTH is a time-consuming and expensive job; and the yield of ACTH is pitifully small. It takes the pituitaries from about 100 hogs to make one injection of ACTH. If we could get the glands from every hog slaughtered in the United States, there would be only enough of the precious stuff to treat about 700 of the millions of arthritic patients!

700 of the millions of arthritic patients!

But there's another big IF that confronts us. Neither cortisone nor ACTH cures arthritis. All they do is to relieve it; consequently, they may have to be taken continuously, like insulin for dia-

betes. And they are such powerful chemicals that they sometimes produce harmful effects in the body. Some of the studies already made indicate that repeated doses of cortisone may have quite a number of harmful effects—of the kinds long known to have resulted from overactive adrenal glands. It wouldn't be much fun to swap your arthritis for diabetes. But until we know more, that's a possibility to watch.

So we have to learn a lot more about how to use cortisone and ACTH and how much to use. Even when these chemicals become plentiful doctors will have to work closely with each patient to get the best results with the least danger, and the story will probably be different with each patient.

But despite all this, the picture isn't black; it's the brightest it's ever been for arthritis sufferers.

In the first place, getting enough of these life-giving medicines is not as hopeless as it seems. Only six or seven years ago, it was impossible to make enough penicillin to treat more than a fraction of the people who desperately needed it; but now it's so cheap and plentiful that no one hesitates to use it for the most trivial ailment. The same was true of insulin when it was first dicovered; and the sulfa drugs, and streptomycin. Medical and chemical research licked all those difficulties; and the cortisone-ACTH problem will be solved in the same way. Already hundreds of thousands of dollars are being set aside by government, the universities, and the drug manufacturers for chemical research on cortisone and ACTH. Already hundreds of our brightest scientific minds are buckling down to the task. For now, the road ahead is clear. Some shorter, simpler method of making large quantities of cortisone must be found.

And progress has been made. It has been found that it can be prepared from a substance found in the seeds of an African plant, from Mexican yams, and from other sources far more plentiful than bile.

Human chemists must also find out how the little pituitary gland produces ACTH so easily, and then devise a way to manufacture it in barrel lots. The search is going to be a little bit like hunting for a needle in a haystack, but with this important difference: we know now that the brightly shining needle is there. It's a tough job, but the chemists won't fail. They never have.

THE rest of us can help by trying to be patient, for it's going to take time. Of course, patience may not come so easily to men and women whose days and nights are tortured with the pain of arthritis; but with hope in their hearts, the waiting should be easier to bear.

The problem of arthritis has not been solved; but thanks to "Phil" Hench and his associates, doctors at last know what kind of disease they are up against, and how to attack it. It may not be tomorrow or next month, or even next year; but help, real help, is surely on the way.

THE END

The Bootlegger Is Back

(Continued from page 19)

any doubt in your mind, bring the bottle to the nearest ATU office for chemical analysis.

Just how widespread, then, are the activities of the moonshiner, who is the manufacturer of illicit liquor, and his sales representatives, the bootleggers? Statistics are generally assumed to be dry but these are extremely wet and carry a mighty kick:

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949, the Federal Government swooped down on 8,008 stills throughout the nation, an increase of 18.5 percent over the year before and 42 percent higher than the number of seizures back in 1943. Last year, a total of 3,661,432 gallons of mash was captured, compared with 1,700,406 in 1943, a rise of 115 percent.

R. E. Joyce, who is president of the Distilled Spirits Institute with headquarters in Washington, expresses the alarm of the entire legal liquor industry at this startling upsurge:

"Moonshining, or illegal distilling, has been resumed on an almost mass production basis," he says. "It has been conservatively estimated that the Federal government, because of the existence of illicit stills, currently is losing tax revenue of more than \$1,000,000 a day — Saturdays, Sundays and holidays included!"

That estimate, based on the daily producing capacity of the stills seized by Federal agents, totes up to \$365,000,000 a year which Uncle Sam doesn't get. Not taken into account are additional stills seized by State agents and the illegal whisky factories which are operating unknown to the enforcement authorities.

Put all that together and the bill, which ultimately must come out of your pocket and mine, comes to a cool half billion dollars, or enough to build a fleet of 55 destroyers or add 500 medium bombers to our Air Force. Or enough to construct

and completely equip 50 hospitals for veterans.

The Treasury Department itself admits that it is losing big money. Its own figures show that Federal collections on distilled spirits dropped 28 percent from 1946 to 1948, and they are dropping even lower.

That the moonshiners are cutting deeply into the legal liquor business is illustrated sharply by another set of figures: The per capita consumption of liquor in the U. S. last year — legal stuff, of course — was 1.3 gallons. In 1935, it was 2.1 gallons. Obviously, the country is not drinking less today than 15 years ago. Obviously, too, that extra eight-tenths of a gallon per person represents guzzling of moonshine. Proof of this? Mr. Joyce of the liquor interests sadly points out that sales of legal liquor dropped 22.7 percent in one year alone due to the inroads of the boys who make the mountain dew.

This illicit liquor racket operates today along strictly business lines, all highly integrated. Your local bootlegger, the fellow who collars you in the lobby or sidles up to you at the lunch counter, gets his moonshine in five or ten gallon cans from jobbers or directly from the stills.

Next, he buys a number of bottles from a man in business to provide them. Actually, each bottle of legal liquor bears the inscription stamped on the glass: "Federal law forbids the sale or re-use of this bottle." There are ways for the bottle merchant to get around this, not the least of which is a bribe to bartenders to turn them over after they are empty.

Equipped with liquor and the bottles to put them in, the bootlegger then buys a set of counterfeit labels from another "company" and finally he acquires revenue stamps either counterfeit or soaked off legal bottles and doctored up so that the tear doesn't show. Then he's ready to give you his business; the business, that is.

The stuff he buys costs the bootlegger from \$6 to \$8 a gallon. He sells it for double that, but the price to the consumer is still lower than the price of legal whisky. A fifth of moonshine would retail at from \$2.50 to \$3, as against \$4 to \$8 for legal firewater.

Now how about the manufacturing lad, the boys who make the mountain dew? The 1950-style 'shiner is by no means confined to the Ozarks, the Tennessee hills or the southern backwoods. They're swarming like maggots in the big cities and the chances are pretty good that there's an illicit still within a BB-shot of your place of business in the big town or your home in the suburbs.

The moonshiners have set up their stills behind legitimate business fronts and are hard to dislodge. They move into the hearts of industrial areas, in garages, warehouses and loft buildings, skillfully set up apparatus in sub-basements or in secret recesses and go to work.

In Philadelphia last year it was only by the merest accident that a huge still was found in operation in a two-story brick building on Lex St. Someone saw smoke pouring from the roof and summoned firemen, who went through a corridor, battered down an inside door and, behind a partition, found 3,000 pounds of sugar and a quantity of yeast and alcohol. Hunting further, they went upstairs through a trapdoor and finally found the still, which included four huge vats of mash, each 12 feet in diameter.

Where was the fire? There wasn't any. Steam, leaking from one of the pipe connections, had given away the cleverly concealed base of operations, which had been going at full blast behind a window dressing of four drill presses prominently displayed in front.

Huge stills have been uncovered in the basements and garages of swank suburban areas, in the market sections of big cities where they sometimes masquerade as commission merchants, in tenement districts and in brick yards, lumber yards and storage plants.

In Atlanta, Treasury agents recently found a 432-gallon still in full operation on the top floor of a business building smack in the heart of town. The raiders seized two 500-gallon vats containing mash, a steam boiler, 36 large fermenters and a stock of raw materials for making moonshine which the brazen lawbreakers had stashed away right in the center of the city.

If the enforcement authorities are having headaches in the big cities, they aren't getting much comfort from the rural areas of Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, North and South Carolina and Oklahoma. There the moonshine boys are meeting the enforcement officers with imagination and guile. Adopting warborn methods of concealment and profiting from the mistakes of their pappies, their methods of covering up their illicit stills are sometimes sheer brilliance.

The moonshiner scouts for weeks until he finds the most inaccessible spot, farth-



est from anywhere, deep inside impenetrable woods. He sets up his apparatus, then posts lookouts to give instant warning of the approach of any suspicious persons. All too often a Federal man works for months on a case, tracks the 'shiner to his lair but finds his prey gone when he finally breaks through to the clearing.

One enforcement official in Washington told me:

"Maybe they get extra brainy by swigging their own stuff, but these boys today got their daddies beaten to a fare-theewell in the idea department. They've gone modern in a big way with camouflage, shortwave radio communications, lookout patrols, automatic alarms to warn of raids and assorted scientific devices. We've got to hustle mighty fast to keep up with them."

He told of one gang down in North Carolina which dug a 220-foot tunnel and hollowed out a cave in the side of a mountain where they operated undisturbed for three years, clearing \$1,000 each week. Entrance to the tunnel was concealed by flowering bushes and they used charcoal to provide a smokeless heat.

That wasn't all. They ran a hidden hose for half a mile and connected it to sewer pipe to empty mash into a stream far away. And the smart lads chose a stream near a tannery so that the extra contamination might pass unnoticed.

To combat the clever moonshiner, the ATU men are in the midst of an air war right now to flush them out. They bor-

rowed planes and pilots from the Coast Guard, boned up on the latest military strategy and worked out plans for airground teamwork with walkie-talkie and split-second timing patterned on World War II tactics. They organize for a raid in the same way as the Army and Air Force did for a big battle.

Here's how they operate: When an area is suspected, the ATU officers meet at a secret airport and plan their attack at a briefing session. Present are the commander, who also serves as aerial observer, the pilot of the Coast Guard plane, walkie-talkie operators and a crew manning a fleet of two-way radio cars.

The plane roars up and the stalking begins. As soon as the commander spots a still or a suspicious site he flashes the ground patrol, which slips silently into ambush position around it. Then, at a signal from above, they close in. The battles are bloody and deadly; the 'shiners, heavily armed, generally shoot it out and heavy casualties are racked up on both sides.

If some moonshiners flee the net, the plane pursues and directs their capture from the air. Once a plane chased a mountaineer 15 miles and spotted him sneaking into a country church, where he was caught hiding behind the altar.

These are the desperate men who make the illicit liquor which the country is gulping by the vatful. Perhaps you'd like to know how bad it is, or how good. Frankly, some of it isn't bad at all. The boys have learned how to make better hooch than Capone's gang. I tasted some and I know.

But sometimes the lads get a little too eager for quick profit and, instead of fermenting grain, try to "clean" denatured alcohol and spice it with flavoring. Then watch out. Watch out, too, when they try to speed fermentation by using the old favorites, ammonium phosphate, sulphuric acid and calcium phosphate, which cut down the fermentation period in half... not to mention the life expectancy of the drinker.

To give moonshine that extra zing, the makers use something called urea, which is a very soluble crystalline substance derived from the urine of mammals. Happy days, fellows!

Bear this vital fact in mind: You can never tell when moonshine whisky is made from denatured alcohol and when it is fermented. Denatured alcohol is alcohol sold anywhere, but it contains a deadly poison, intentionally put into it so that it cannot be used for just that purpose. No matter how clever the moonshiner is, no matter what he does to it, he can never completely eliminate the poison. It is always there and it may get to you.

The moonshiner and the bootlegger will continue to thrive as long as they have customers to buy their output. The only certain way to drive them out of business is to pass up that kind of round. It's healthier for the government, legitimate business and much, much healthier for your liver.

They've Got The Championship Habit

(Continued from page 27)

memorial to Archie R. McAllister, Sr. For many years Harwood Post of The American Legion—the local telephone directory lists it as Harwood Post, but the members do not seem to mind—had been a leader in all community betterment projects. For years it had sponsored a crack drum and bugle corps, but this group had been disbanded during the war years and at that time nothing was being done to revive it. The embryo band needed a home and a sponsor; the Legion unit was unattached and could do well with a musical unit.

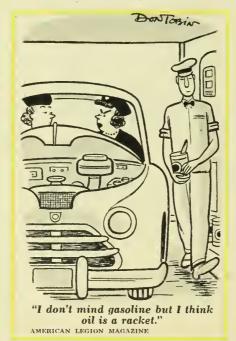
McAllister and Austin took their plan to Commander George Comerford. He called in the Post's Board of Directors and consulted with the membership before taking any action. Then he had a long talk with the two promoters.

"Get your gang together," Commander Comerford told them. "We will back you for a year." Thus the band-to-be found a home and a sponsor on a strictly probationary basis.

That was in early December, 1945. There were many things to do, and it was not until January 23, 1946, that the new band met for its first rehearsal—and at that it was pretty much of a pick-up affair, with thirty prospective members present. Neither the promoters nor the sponsoring Legion Post had instruments, the fledgling bandsmen brought their own, or borrowed instruments from other band members in the city. The unbal-

anced instrumentation left a lot to be desired, but the youngsters just back from a long war displayed so much zeal and enthusiasm that the older Legionnaires soon began to take notice. Before long they were bragging of "our band."

Harwood Post had long enjoyed a place in the sun. Through the years it had made



some very notable contributions to its home city, to its Department, and to the whole Legion. In fact it was better than well known as a Legion unit. As one shining example of its work, it was while Hayes Kennedy was serving as Commander of Harwood Post in 1932-33 that he dreamed up and developed the idea of the Boys' State, and was able to convince the Illinois Department that his plan of youth training in government would work.

It was not until the May 30th—Memorial Day—parade in 1946 that the Memorial Band made its first public appearance, still a bit ragged in instrumentation and decidedly un-uniform as to dress, but with unbounded confidence. The band had been increased to sixty-three pieces and was ready to go places.

The first taste of victory came on July 15th when the Memorial Band carried off first honors in a competition at the Division Convention held at Aurora. Composed almost entirely of World War II vets, their very youthful appearance set a scout off on the wrong slant when he dropped around to look the group over. "You can't fool me," he said. "That's McAllister's high school band."

A month later, on August 17th, the band from Joliet entered the competition at the Illinois Department Convention at Chicago and came through with first place in the Class A Senior Division. That was the top — a band can go no farther in Illinois, and in this victory it took the title

away from the Peoria Legion Band which had held it for more than a dozen years. Repeating in 1947, 1948 and 1949, the Memorial Band has successfully held its title against all comers.

Just as in earlier years when the old high school band was an institution in its home city, Joliet citizens - among them outstanding business and professional men who had played in the band years ago - began to see visions of a national championship. National competitions of all kinds had been discontinued by the Legion during the war years, but were to be revived at the National Convention at San Francisco in October of 1946. Why not send the Legion Memorial Band to take a whirl at big-time competition?

Raising the money to take a sixtythree-piece band across the continent was, apparently, about the easiest thing in the whole project. Many of the men were in new jobs and could not spare a lot of time, others had taken their regular vacation days, and a half dozen other obstacles had to be hurdled. To conserve time, it was decided to make the trip by air - and two beat-up old planes were chartered for the round trip. But when time for departure came only one was on the field. The other was so far gone that it could not make it to the Joliet airfield. Then trouble really started; getting the band out of Joliet was a major operation, according to Business Manager Al W. Meyer, and presented more problems than moving an Army Corps. Manager Meyer should know-he had to handle the details, and in doing so burned up a lot of money in long distance telephoning that should have been spent on transportation, but he finally managed to wangle a replacement plane. The bandsmen stood by, none left the field; but it was twentyone hours after the scheduled hour of departure when the first plane wobbled off the field, closely followed by the replacement. Twelve hours after landing in the City by the Golden Gate the Joliet band was neck-deep in its first national competition and on the way to winning its first national championship. True to the tradition of that old high school band from which it drew the major part of its members and nearly all of its inspiration, it had retained the championship habit.

Though it had taken first place and championship honors in division, department and national competitions, the band was still without uniforms. It appeared at San Francisco just as it had looked in the Memorial Day parade at Joliet - representing a true unification of the Armed Forces in spirit and harmony as well as in fact. There were sixty-three members in the big parade at San Francisco, all World War II vets except one - Luke Kane, a clarinetist. The bandsmen wore their service uniforms, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, all arms and all grades up to an army major. That is, all but World War I veteran Luke Kane, who did his marching and playing in a regulation Legion uniform.

Leading the march was Director Archie McAllister, Jr., in his army uniform with sergeant's chevrons, shoulder patch of the 37th (Buckeye) Infantry Division, six gold overseas service stripes, combat in-



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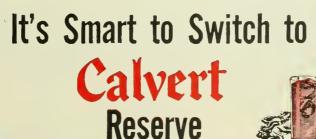
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fantryman's badge, and a string of service ribbons. All down that line of high school band-trained musicians were corresponding ribbons and insignia on the varied uniforms all indicating long and hard service in the war that had ended a little more than a year before.

Getting over the hump on first trial was of course a big help to the band in setting its affairs in order—but now that "our band" had clicked and had won the topmost honors some two months before the one year probationary period ended, there was no more talk about probation—the band really belonged.

Through means of concerts and other affairs handled by the organization by its own officers, money was raised to buy brand new instruments and to completely uniform the bandsmen, which by this time had increased to more than seventy-five. The new uniforms were received just in time to make a neat, natty appearance at the New York National Convention in 1947, when, in addition to successfully defending its title and heading up the big parade up Fifth Avenue, the band gave a number of public concerts in Central Park and in other mid-town spots.

The trip to Miami for the second defense of the championship title in 1948 was made by air, but without the fuss and trouble of that first long flight to San Francisco. The Philadelphia meet and competition in 1949 was taken in stride—and now the whole band is concentrating on the 1950 National Convention and competition at Los Angeles on October 9.

Some twenty-five or thirty of the present members were on tour with the old Joliet High School Band in 1940 when they played an eight-day engagement at Los Angeles, giving three or four concerts daily. Many have nostalgic recollections of the movie capital. "Gee! I wish we could get back to stay at the old Stillwell Hotel at Los Angeles," a full halfdozen said wistfully. Maybe they can, if they talk fast and soon enough to the

1950 Convention Housing Committee.

The American Legion Memorial Band now enrolls seventy-five fully equipped and completely uniformed bandsmen; all are World War II veterans; ninety percent are graduates of the McAllister trained Joliet High School Band, and eight are still in college under the GI Bill. The officers are all playing members of the band organization, with Bob Francis as President for the current year. Archie McAllister, Jr., has directed the band since its organization, with the exception of a few months directly after the San Francisco Convention.

Weekly rehearsals are a requirement, and this schedule is kept up throughout the year except when preparing for competitions or concerts when other evening meetings are held. Though there is only a sprinkling of professional or semi-professional musicians among the group, the rehearsals are conducted in a strictly business-like manner and with a professional air. But once in a while these meetings are disrupted-this happened a while back when a bandsman reported late, apologized for his tardy appearance and appealed for aid for his wife who was in urgent need of an immediate blood transfusion. Playing was discontinued perforce when all the members present volunteered in a group to supply all the blood needed. This is but one example of the ties that bind these men who have played together in bands or on the playing fields since their school days.

This band idea, born in a fox-hole on Guadalcanal, has so far been carried out according to blueprint. It has reunited a group of young veterans for fellowship and community interest in the development of one of the finest concert bands in all the country. And above all, in the minds of this group at least it keeps a greater idea alive—in serving the public as a Legion band it stands as a living memorial to a great musician, the late A. R. McAllister, Sr.

IMP-ULSES

By Ponce de Leon







From where I sit by Joe Marsh

Handy and Easy **Are Both Wrong**

Handy Peterson and Easy Roberts got in quite an argument the other day over at Fred's Garage about the best spot to fish up at Green Lake.

"Opposite the old sawmill is the best spot," says Handy. But Easy "pooh-pooh's" him. "I've seen the biggest fish caught off Cedar Point," says Easy. "I've been catching them there for years."

Then Fred goes and brings out the biggest mounted rainbow trout you ever saw. "Bet you that was caught at the old sawmill," comments Handy. "Cedar Point," says Easy. "Well," says Fred, "you're both wrong. I caught this baby right out in the middle of the lake!"

From where I sit, there are always two (or more) sides to every story. Let's live and let live in the true American tradition of toleration. Your opinion is worth a lot, but so is the other fellow's—whether it's on politics, the best fishing spots, or whether he likes a temperate glass of beer and you like buttermilk.



We do not stand ALONE

(Continued from page 23)

her finger at him admonishes: "Now, don't you dare fly faster than sound, young man. My friend and I have lots to talk about!"

Changing times have had little effect on British humor.

An hour's eastward flight from London brought us to Europe's oldest kingdom, ancient home of the Vikings, Denmark.

The military importance of Denmark, with a population equal to that of the city of Chicago, lies in its strategic position,

bottling up the Baltic Sea.

The military defense of Denmark is based on national conscription, introduced in 1849. The men of the most recent eight years form the line troops, those of the previous eight years the reserve. Under war mobilization the Danish army can be brought up to a strength of 100,000.

The pick of the troops comprise the King's personal guard, Livgarden. Resplendent in their tall bearskin hats, skyblue trousers, and red coats with crossed, white bandoleers they may look like chocolate soldiers, but don't let that fool you.

On Sept. 19, 1944 these "quaint" looking soldiers planted themselves between advancing Nazi troops and the Royal Palace, Amalienborg, and opened fire. Bitter fighting ensued, and German dead littered the street before the invaders finally withdrew, abandoning their plan to occupy the Palace. When this incident occurred Denmark had been under German occupation for 41/2 years!

The man who led the Royal Guard that day, Capt. Troels Branner, told us the story of a wartime construction undertaking which, though strangely never told in the U.S., surpasses any underground building project of World War II.

The Germans were stationed in buildings completely surrounding the king's palace, and as the fighting in September had proved the castle to be isolated from the outside, Capt. Branner and the faithful Royal Guard decided that an avenue of escape was necessary for the Royal family. The only possibility was an underground passage running literally under the very feet of the Nazis. Tons upon tons of earth were removed, powerful air compressors forced 23 gigantic two ton tubes of reinforced concrete into the earth, carving a 100-foot-long underground passage directly under the Nazi guards. Electric pumps, hoists, tools, and machinery were smuggled past the Germans' noses, and the entire project - the discovery of which would have meant instant death to the soldiers - was completed in three

Perhaps Denmark's greatest contribution to the Atlantic Pact is Greenland, a great, frozen stepping stone on the arctic America-Europe airway, equal in size to the 26 states east of the Mississippi. The U.S. gained three things when Denmark opened Greenland to us during the war: Vital, still-existing defense bases, - valuable cryolite deposits, and all-important weather stations, which made possible the wartime air force byword: "We know in Greenland today what the weather will be in Germany tomorrow." Gen. George C. Kenney once said, addressing the Legion: "If war comes again it will come over the north-polar basin . . . and Russian bomb-

ers can reach any city in the U.S."

Whether they head for New York or San Francisco, Greenland lies directly

athwart their path.

But even before reaching Greenland Russian planes on the Moscow-New York route would find themselves over Iceland, a sovereign state under the king of Denmark until June 17, 1944 when the island



proclaimed itself an independent republic -now a party to the Atlantic Pact.

Iceland possesses neither army, navy, nor any fortifications. "But," said an islander with patriotic pride, "we do have three fishery protection vessels.'

Denmark is relatively little better prepared: Though she operates a considerably larger fleet, her responsibilities are so much greater. Standing one day on the battlements of Kronborg Castle, Denmark's "West Point" at Elsinore, we looked out over one of the most strategic bodies of water in the modern world. With a navy headed by two frigates, 10 seagoing torpedo boats, and three submarines Danish sailors may some day be called upon to blockade narrow Ore Sound, Russia's Baltic Sea approach to the Atlantic Ocean. There is only one other such approach, effectively blocked the day Norway entered the Pact.

The Norwegian Royal Resolution of June 10, 1949 directs: Attack means automatic mobilization; fight even though the situation looks hopeless; give no heed to threats of reprisals; the fight must continue outside the country's borders, regardless of contrary orders issued in the name of King or Government, should these be taken prisoners; a captured officer must not give his parole to the enemy!

This is the invincible fighting spirit of

the Norwegians today.
Norway, bordering directly on Russia, bore the brunt of more Russian pressure



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before signing the Pact than any other country, a clear indication of the country's vital strategic importance, which extends far beyond Scandinavian borders. With her arctic island of Spitzbergen Norway seals Russia's Murmansk-Archangelsk entrance to the Atlantic.

To defend these strategic sea bases Norway has a Marine Defense largely foreign in origin. Even the Germans contributed heavily, constructing 300 new coastal defense points to guard their "New Order." With their unscheduled, sudden departure they were forced to abandon tons of equipment, which the Danes and Norwegians are now exchanging in neighborly fashion, Denmark getting German AA guns and torpedoes from Norway in return for Nazi heavy artillery left in Denmark.

Most of Norway's pre-war navy was lost, but she has acquired several new craft from England. These form the bulk of the country's navy, numbering about 600 vessels, mainly destroyers, sub chasers, motor torpedo boats and other light craft.

Norway can provide the West with air bases from which the heart of Russia can be bombed, but it is safe to say that such attacks will never be made by Norway's own small force of 98 planes, mostly British Vampires, Spitfires, Mosquitos, and Sunderland Flying Boats. Should the U.S., Britain and Canada enter the show, however, Norway would become a focal striking point of the Atlantic Pact air arm.

Norway's army, based on conscription for the last three centuries, is perhaps the only army drafting school teachers to instruct the troops in the social sciences. "The defenders of our democratic country certainly should know how that democracy is run!" The three brigades doing occupation duty in Germany were the first to benefit from this innovation, each receiving 25 teachers of democracy.

Norway places great faith in its Heimevern—Home Guard—now numbering over 100,000, but expected to grow to four times this size; 90,000 uniforms for the Guard were ordered in the U.S. — on arrival 58,000 caps were found to be far too small for these heroic-sized vikings!

And Norway looks to the future. Her vital industries and power plants are in the process of being built into the very mountains of the country in preparation for atomic warfare defense.

As Norwegian Maj. Gen. Olaf Helset said: "Norway will never again be taken by surprise."

We were to hear that same affirmation from an officer of another small country. Capitaine-Commandant Michel during the Battle of the Bulge commanded a battalion of Belgian regulars with whom one of the writers served briefly in the capacity of U.S. liaison officer. For two weeks these Belgian troops held the Luxembourg town of Grevenmacher, christened "Booby Trap Town" by GI's who gave the place a wide berth - and with good reason. As the town changed hands it had been booby trapped three times, none of the traps were charted, and the deserted town was a death trap. Those Belgians were tops!

But even the most courageous soldiers were taught one important lesson by the war. As a Belgian staff colonel explained: "We know we're good, but we also know that a good little man can't hope to beat even a mediocre big one." Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, joining forces, are well on the way to turning three little men into one big one. Under the name Benelux joint maneuvers are being held, command staffs united, and on the industrial front - the Dutch and Belgians are co-operating to turn out jet fighters, the Dutch making the frames and the Belgians providing engines. The success of our Western European defense program depends on just this kind of cooperation.

"All three of our countries were occupied in the war," said an officer of the joint command, "It isn't generally known that we had 1,167,000 men in the fight. And this time we are not interested in be-



ing liberated after an occupation. We would prefer death."

Given a few well equipped, integrated divisions chances are good that Benelux can forestall this dreaded occupation. Holland has the sea, — her 20-mile-long Great Dike alone can flood 48,000 acres, — and so do the Belgians, whose Albert Canal Dikes in the northwest could likewise be opened. Southern Belgium has never been a "soft" objective, and looking at those wooded hills it's easy to see why.

The Benelux countries, especially Holland, also have naval power to throw into the breach. The Dutch navy is deceptively small; 1 aircraft carrier, 2 cruisers, no battleships. But with emphasis on speed and rocket fire power, developing along the lines of speedy task forces, it is the first navy in Europe, if not the world, to be rebuilt for the atomic age.

Airmen who flew alongside Dutch pilots will tell you that they are among the best in the world. With four years' training, most of them could, and would, fly anything with wings.

The third Benelux country, Luxembourg, is smaller than many American cities, but fanatically independent. In the war 45,000 of her people fled the country rather than submit to occupation, and many of them served valiantly with allied forces around the world. Every effort will be made to retain this strategic area in the event of war, since it occupies that point on the map where Belgium, Germany and France come together.

France fell to Hitler in 39 days, a month sooner than tiny Norway. French General Jean de Lattre de Tassigny, who insiders predict would head up all of Western Europe's ground forces in the event of a WW3, is determined such a fiasco will not happen again. "Little by little we must create a superiority complex in the men without which the will to win cannot exist."

France came out of the war with an insignificant number of troops, arms and armament industries. By the time the Pact was signed she had about 600,000 troops spread over France, North Africa, Germany, Austria and Indo-China, and about 1000 planes, all old. But today General de Tassigny thinks that with a half billion dollars in U.S. aid France can entirely modernize five divisions and add 500 new fighter planes. As potential commander of Europe's ground forces he estimates that the western democracies can have 12 combat divisions in the field by next year, 30 by the end of 1952. Although even 30 divisions could not hold the almost two hundred Russia could bring into the fight, they could hold them long enough for U.S. reinforcements to turn the tide of battle.

Because she will provide the bulk of these ground forces France is slated to receive the bulk of early U.S. arms shipments. After listening to leaders like de Tassigny, you have little doubt that her men will have the skill to use them. But when you hear that one out of every five French voters is a communist you can't help wondering whether they will use that skill. This is not the best subject to dis-



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cuss with General de Tassigny, who calls any suggestion that Frenchmen would not fight "blasphemy."

You go instead to the average noncommunist Frenchman, like Monsieur Zozo, amiable patron of A La Fortune du Pot, a café in the famed Montmartre section of Paris. Zozo, who has a citation from General Eisenhower, smuggled 28 American fliers out of Nazi-held Paris at the cost of two years in German concentration camps for his wife and daughter - without ever receiving so much as a post card from the boys he saved. His address, by the way: 45 Rue Douai, Paris 9.

What does he think of France's solidarity? Will French communists fight the Reds if it comes to that?

"Well," says Zozo, "we French have always been a little crazy when it comes to politics. You Americans have your automobiles and gadgets, we French have our political parties-dozens of them. Certainly we have communists in France. But remember, a Frenchman is always a Frenchman. A thousand years of history prove it. Non, Monsieur! The Russians make a great mistake if they think Frenchmen will not fight for France, even those who call themselves communists."

And then he adds with a gleam in his eyes: "Furthermore - just to be sure, you understand-these communists have been removed from all key jobs in the army."

France also has the next-largest European navy, second only to England's. Partly scuttled during the war, or sunk by the British to keep it out of German hands, the French navy nevertheless commands two battleships, two aircraft carriers, 11 cruisers, 28 destroyers and torpedo boats, and a number of submarines. Together with the remaining two Italian battleships, four cruisers and miscellaneous smaller warships, the French navy serves as the Mediterranean fleet of the Atlantic Pact navy and will make certain that the Russian fleet does not steam out of the Black Sea into the Mediterranean and on through to the Atlantic.

Italy, only other Mediterranean Atlantic Pact country, also has a serious communist problem. Politicians still ruefully describe the fist fights in Parliament over ratification of the Pact. Many say that the rioting and choruses of "Death to the Government!" were the worst ever seen in the assembly, surpassing even the old Fascist uprisings.

Political trouble always affects Italy's fighting forces. GI's who fought Italian units often say: "Eyeties are just naturally lousy soldiers." Actually, the Italians made a poor showing because they were so often left holding the bag by "strategically" retreating Nazi generals. And to many Italians defeat meant only ousting the Germans, and the end of the Fascists.

The 1947 peace treaty limits the Italian army to 250,000 men and 200 tanks, the air force to 25,000 men and 350 planes, and the navy to a permanent personnel of 22,500. They are poorly equipped with obsolete British wartime equipment. Only the 75,000 Carabinieri-the national police - are well equipped with jeeps and small arms. Peak strength in World War II was 3,757,000. A future mobilization could duplicate this figure.

Still mixed-up politically, however, Italy may turn out to be the weak link in the Atlantic Pact chain.

Any North Atlantic Pact worthy its name must include Portugal, not only because of her position on the Iberian Peninsula, but, chiefly, her possession of the Azores in mid-Atlantic.

On our homeward flight from Orly Field in Paris our C-54 - navy this time - sat down on huge, U.S.-built Lagens Field on Terceria, second largest of the Azores Islands. In 1943 Portugal granted Britain and the U.S. permission to construct air and naval bases on the islands - all-important installations still operating today.

Nearly 54,000 people live on rocky Terceria, Portugal's "Gibraltar of the Atlan-



"He thinks his number is up. His lifetime pen stopped working this morning."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

tic." Col. Joseph A. Wilson, CO of Lagens Field, informed us that the base, which was given to the Portuguese at the termination of hostilities, has a complement of some 550 Americans - air force personnel and civilians - and twice that number of natives.

Portugal, having compulsory military service, maintains about 35 regiments in the army; she has slightly less than 600 planes, both air force and navy, and her fleet, predominantly British built, is headed by 6 sloops, 5 destroyers, 2 frigates, and 6 subs. The country, strengthened by its neutrality in WW2, has asked for no arms aid under the Military Assistance Program.

These are the facts: Russian strength has been estimated by Gen. Omar Bradley at 4,000,000 men and some 14,000 planes. Russian divisions in being, the general recently told a House Appropriations Committee, number about 175-a total which could be boosted to 300 in less than 60 days. The Chief of Staff further estimated that satellite nations could muster an additional 100 divisions. The Atlantic Pact countries, excluding the U.S. and Canada, can bring up 12 divisions this year; 30 by 1952. Only British and U.S. air power come anywhere close to matching Red air might.

But: Western morale is good, and growing better day by day. Western equipment is being modernized at a greater pace than the Russians, even with satellite industries like the famous Czech Skoda works, can possibly hope to equal. At this moment U.S. warehouses have modern equipment for 25 full divisions and parttial supplies for 89 more. Our General Staff is holding equipment for 20 divisions to be called up by M-day plus three months, as our irreducible minimum of aid. The rest is on its way to our Atlantic Pact allies under the \$1 billion military assistance program of the Pact.

Remember too, that we subtract from one side what we add to the other. \$11,000,000,000 worth of materials, 14,700 planes, 7,000 tanks, which went to Russia in WW2, will go next time to the free western democracies.

And in case your friends are still wondering why this Pact, tell them to look at Britain, where the people learned too late that in WW2 the English Channel was no more protection than the Rhine in WW1. Americans have already seen that in a future war the Arctic wastes and Atlantic Ocean would be little more than the Channel in WW2. Our Western allies make up a solid line of radar stations, 2,500 miles long, watch-dogs of a distant frontier that has become our Main Line of Resistance.

Not just a bunch of "sad sacks," our European allies. General Bradley has called the Atlantic Pact a greater deterrent to aggression than the A-bomb itself.

"For now," said the Chief of Staff, "in addition to weapons, we have an organization for collective defense backed by the will of free men in free nations all working for peace."

Russia will find it mighty tough going if she really attempts to sweep across Europe to the Atlantic! THE END

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DOLAN HAS A LOT OF USED HOUSES

Jerry Dolan, of Anaheim, Cal., might be considered a man among men in a state where nothing is done on less than a colossal level. Operating much like a used car dealer, he has become known in his own home community and all over Southern California as "Square Deal Dolan, the Used House Dealer."

A member of American Legion Post 72 in Anaheim, Dolan makes his living by purchasing and moving new homes to locations that his customers may choose. On the outskirts of Anaheim he has a "used home lot," where prospective buyers may come to pick out the model they desire from the half-dozen or so on display. Business is extremely brisk these days with new highways netting the state and resulting in many homes in the right-of-way being sold at auction, and, on the other hand, new sub-divisions provide a ready market for many of his products.

Dolan, an Army veteran of World War I, peddles his houses in much the same way that used car dealers do their properties. Many of the houses have signs hanging on them saying "\$600-Delivered" or whatever the price may be. He sells about a house a week with an average of two or three dozen shoppers visiting his lot each day.

Dolan got started in the business about two years ago when a new oil field was discovered and the properties were sold to the oil companies. He purchased the houses and moved them to his Anaheim lot. He still gets many of his "almost new models" from the new oil fields which are constantly springing up in the region.

Dolan has found that small houses with plenty of bedroom space sell best and he makes an effort to keep a number of these models on hand. The most popular size has five or six rooms, two of them bedrooms. He averages 200 miles a day in his search for them.

"There's nothing too unusual about the business," he declares. "People and families outgrow their own homes or wear them out. They come to me when they want a new model."

A graduate of Penn State College with a law degree from Loyola University, he has found that his legal training comes in handy in contending with the red tape of building codes and zoning laws.

Many of Dolan's models are in the bracket between \$1000 and \$2000, allowing the purchaser to buy a good home cheap and at the same time making it possible for him to reap a decent profit. He figures his margin at about 20 percent.

Though he does little advertising, word-of-mouth has done him a great deal of good. He is located on a main highway leading into Los Angeles and has several million persons passing his place of business each month. On more than one occasion, a curious person has stopped to investigate and ended up by trading his old home in on a new one.

- By Jack Lewis

THEY PROMOTE PEOPLE

Three years ago, Eddie Ryan, back home in Cincinnati after forty-eight months of Army service, was just another veteran looking for a job—but with a difference. Eddie had been in the Department of Eddie had been in the Department of Service and had learned a lot about getting the right men into the right job for Uncle Sam. So his old buddies began to drop in on him for advice in securing jobs, and Eddie found himself in the odd position of getting other men re-instated in civilian life while he himself remained jobless. Then the great idea was born—to make a business of career consultation.

Ryan talked it over with an old friend, Walter Elliott, who had many years of experience in sales, advertising, production and manufacturing. Walter thought it was a good idea and agreed to help on week-ends and in the evenings. They started Scientific Placement Systems in a modest way with just one desk (for Eddie), but their clientele grew so rapidly that Walter soon gave up his executive position to work full time with his partner.

The System requires a client to take aptitude determining tests; then after several consultations it is decided just what type of position the client is best fitted for. From there on, it is up to Ryan and Elliott to find the spot for him. An attractive folder is made up, giving the client's name, telling what he is best qualified to do, and including a photograph. This personal brochure is then placed in the hands of executives. The method has proved effective in eight cases out of ten.

Ryan and Elliott feel that their service is not an employment agency, but more like an advertising business. Instead of selling products, they sell their people. Furthermore, Scientific Placement Systems does not act on a commission basis, so there is no danger of over-selling a man just to get him a job. When a client applies for consultation he pays a flat fee, and sometimes he is advised to stay where he is, if it appears that he is already placed to his best advantage.

- By M. R. McHale

Gimmicks that Pay Off

(Continued from page 21)

which made it possible for him to give his customers something for their ears as well as their eyes. If a choral group, for instance, was giving a recital, he could offer them not only pictures but records too.

He advertised his novel service and it caught on quickly. He soon was making recordings as well as still pictures or movies of weddings, children, family parties, dramatic and musical groups. Bob Carroll then moved to Petersburg, Va., where he got a job handling sales and promotion for station WHAP. However, in his spare time his "Record Events," as he dubbed his business, continued to pay him good dividends. At the present time he is located in Knightstown, Indiana, and the idea is paying off there too. How does he get business? Bob Carroll puts it this way - and it is good advice for anyone starting any kind of venture - "Ads in local papers, spot radio announcements, and word-of-mouth advertising.'

Television opened up a market for William W. Morris, WW 1 vet of Elmhurst, N. Y., who likes to make movies. Morris is a magazine photographer but on weekends he turns to a movie camera and makes short industrial and commercial films for television. Video stations welcome good short movies made expressly for TV even though they may contain indirect commercial plugs. They help to provide good viewer entertainment between the star shows on daily schedules, and wide-awake businessmen are fast realizing that they can cash in on valuable free air time by offering stations well-thought-out film shorts. Bill Morris, an ardent TV fan himself, was quick to see and capitalize on the possibilities. Now he spends many a Saturday and Sunday "on location" shooting special TV films. By renting a 16 mm, movie camera from a New York photo shop when he needs it,

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

and by charging a flat rate per film plus all expenses including the cost of the film, he keeps overhead to a minimum.

Just a few dollars is enough to buy the equipment necessary to build up a profitable sideline, if you have a good idea. In Oklahoma City, Shannon Hughes, an electrician, got under way with nothing more than a conventional hand-held power tool, a file, and some sheets of clear plastic. It all started when Hughes decided that it would be fun to build a plastic scale model of the house he hopes someday to build. When he was finished he happened to show it to a builder friend. Now, when Hughes isn't busy with electrical problems, he is building similar transparent models for the clients of Oklahoma City architects who find that they help to eliminate costly last-minute changes in building plans. On homes costing up to \$10,000, Hughes charges \$6 for every \$1,000 of value. On larger, more complicated homes, he boosts the base rate.

Ed Spear, a full-time inspector at the Westinghouse plant in East Springfield, Mass., got into his spare-time business because he offered to help his young son make some plaster-of-Paris figures with a rubber molding set the boy had been given on his birthday. Ed became so intrigued with the process that he improved on it and began making figurines for sale in neighborhood gift and novelty shops. Last year, during the pre-Christmas season his gayly colored animals and Santa Claus figures, made in his spare time, netted him a clear profit of \$60. Right now, Ed is busy making up a whole line of religious figurines which he feels will be good year-round sellers. By using a sprayon rayon material (called Vel-Coat), Spear is able to give his figures realistic finishes that resemble fur on the animals and the cloth of clothing on his minia-

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ture plaster models of human beings.

That there's good money in gadgets has been well demonstrated by the tremendous success of a relatively new automatic vending machine that serves up pipinghot coffee at a nickel a cup.

The story of Morgan Koch is typical. When Koch got out of the service after VJ Day, he reluctantly returned to farming in Laureldale near Reading, Pa. Then he and a friend, Alvin Kimmel, also a farmer, heard about the new nickel-inthe-slot Kwik Kafe Coffee Dispenser. They visited the Philadelphia plant of Rudd and Melikian, two veterans who make and sell the coffee vendors on an exclusive territory franchise arrangement (\$886.50 each, in minimum lots of ten), and supply the frozen coffee concentrate, paper cups, and spoons. Koch and Kimmel inspected the machines at the factory. Then they surveyed the market possibilities in and around Reading. Finally, convinced that there was money to be made, they pooled some capital-\$5,000 each-and went into partnership. After two dubious months, they succeeded in placing machines in several large manufacturing plants. Today, they have sixteen Kwik Kafe machines operating in good locations and are doing an annual gross business of \$50,000! They use the cellar of one of their homes as their operating base, and they tend to all the daily servicing of the machines themselves. By eliminating the need for hired help, they have been able to keep their profits up.

Not long ago, a revolutionary new kind of camera made its national debut. Manufactured by the Polaroid Company of glareless sunglass fame, it develops and prints its own pictures in 60 seconds after the shutter is snapped. It didn't take very long for more than one enterprising young businessman to discover that the Polaroid camera offered a modernized version of the old and profitable tintype technique a chance to make money by taking pictures of children at parks and zoos and delivering the prints right on the spot at a fair profit. They found that by spending an afternoon in the sun it was no trick at all to rake in \$10 or \$15. Polaroid film costs \$1.75 a roll for eight developed and printed pictures. By charging 50¢ a picture – a price that's not hard to get - each film roll yields a clear take of \$2.25.

A photographic fan who owns a rapidfire camera like the Robot, which is capable of snapping four pictures in a second, and who also lives near a golf course, country club, or tennis court, can easily pick up spare change by taking sequence action pictures of golfers or tennis players. Sports fans, particularly the serious minded, will pay good money for stepby-step photographs showing their form so they can improve their game.

As a matter of fact, sports in general offer almost unlimited opportunities to the sparetime businessman who has a few dollars to invest in equipment. There is money in gadgets for sports. A good example is a portable ski tow manufactured by the Sweden Manufacturing Co. of Seattle, Wash. Powered by a compact gasoline engine mounted on a toboggan. the rope tow can be set up quickly on any open slope that offers good snow.



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More than one vet has found that there's good profit in catering to the household Part of this income comes from the sale of patterns, fabrics, thread, etc.

A few years ago, Robert Burklin of Washington, D. C., decided that he could cater to one urgent need of housewives living in communities near the Capital by investing in an electric machine that shampoos rugs right on the floor. Householders, he had found by making a few well-placed inquiries, were getting tired of going rugless for several weeks on end while their rugs were at Washington cleaners. By charging a rate that averaged about 61/2¢ a square foot, a price that compared favorably with cleaners' fees,



needs of the housewives in their community. A demonstrated case in point are the hundreds of Self-Service Half-Hour Laundries scattered throughout the country. These coin-in-the-slot laundries equipped with automatic Laundromats, driers, and mechanical ironers make it possible for a housewife to rent \$3,500 worth of mechanical equipment to take care of her weekly wash for the small sum of \$2. And more than 76 percent of these laundries are owned and operated by veterans who, with an investment of about \$14,000, net about \$10,000 a year!

Another and newer kind of service directed at the ladies of the community is the growing business of making quarterin-the-slot electric sewing machines available to busy housewives and businesswomen on much the same basis. According to Stitch-in-Time Systems, Inc., of San Diego, Calif., who sell the machines and the allied equipment on a franchise basis, a neighborhood unit consisting of twenty machines set up in a small store-which would mean an overall investment of \$3,000 - can gross \$12,000 ayear and net \$5,000. These figures, made available by Stitch-in-Time, are based on five hours of use per machine per day. Burklin got so much business right from the start that his spare-time business soon became a full-time undertaking.

The same profitable possibilities exist in electric upholstery cleaners, wall cleaners, and floor surfacing machines.

The roots for a profitable sideline, or a full-time business, can sprout from just about anywhere. Every month dozens of new gadgets and gimmicks - new kinds of tools, cameras, labor-saving devices, processes - appear on the market. Coupled with a good idea, many of them can be turned into ready cash. The important thing is to make sure before investing a dime in cash that the kind of business or service you have in mind fills a definite need for the market you have in mind.

One rural mid-westerner living in a farming community, where the nearest machine shop was miles away, got his start in business by setting up a small shop in back of his home. In no time at all he became the general handy man for all the neighboring farmers. After a few years he decided to transfer his mechanical know-how to a near-by big city. The big city was Detroit, and the man's name was Henry Ford! It could happen to any man with a gadget-and an idea. THE END



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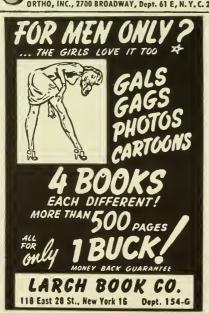
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The Human Rifle of Fenway Park

(Continued from page 17)

on September 16 in a semi-final playoff for the Governor's Cup and pitched the third no-hit, no-run game of his career. His first was in high school. Against Utica, he struck out eighteen batters, five of them in a row. He is the only pitcher to throw two no-hitters in the Eastern League.

In Boston, the reports were read avidly. When the final averages came out, and the Red Sox saw that Mac's earned-run average was a sizzling 2.07, they almost shook their heads loose agreeing with each other that the kid was going to make it. He had won only three games and had lost six, but he had struck out 115 men in that handful of appearances.

He was invited to the Red Sox camp at Sarasota again in the Spring of 1949 but he couldn't convince Manager Joe McCarthy that he was quite ready. So Lefty, as the Sox called him, packed his bag and joined the Louisville Colonels.

By now, thanks to the Life picture, subsequent feature stories in the newspapers, and his record as a double no-hit pitcher in the Eastern League, Mac was beginning to attract attention. Young, friendly, and naive, he was a natural for the newspaper boys. They discovered in him a gold mine of copy. Before long, his reputation as the rookiest rookie to hit the majors in years was spurring the invention of a lot of yarns that never happened. Mac was cast as the barefoot boy from the hills with a huge grin, an appetite to match. And he was still so fast and wild that at Louisville people began to go to the ball park just to see him scare the batters.

He pitched the opening game of the 1949 season for the Colonels and struck out seventeen men in beating Minneapolis, 4-3. He missed tying the Association strikeout record by one. The record didn't elude him for long. On May 24, he beat St. Paul, 3-1, and struck out twenty. He whiffed fourteen of those in the last five innings! On June 12, he threw a threehit, 1-0 shutout at Indianapolis and fanned thirteen in the process.

Meanwhile, the parent Red Sox were dying on the vine for want of some consistent pitching. Mel Parnell and Ellis Kinder were going great guns on the mound, and the whole team was hitting enthusiastically, but the lack of pitching

depth was costing the club many games. "What are you waiting for?" Boston fans growled. "Bring McDermott up!"

"Who cares if he's wild?" they grumbled. "He can throw hard, can't he?"

The wild man from Poughkeepsie - his family had moved back to the city of Mc-Dermott's birth-broke into Boston's 1949 lineup at last on the night of June 17, eleven months after he'd been returned to Scranton. He beat the White Sox, but walked nine and had to have help at the end. The score was a frightening 10-8.

The next time out he tossed a shutout at the St. Louis Browns, winning, 7-0. He gave up only three hits, struck out six, and this time walked only two.

His next whirl was a heartbreaker. He pitched against the Yankees in a night game at Fenway Park, and the recently returned Joe DiMaggio was in the New York lineup. Mac walked only three and he fanned nine, but he was belted for eight hits and one of them was a gamewinning homer by DiMaggio.

'He hits me pretty good," Maurice will tell you, shaking his curly head.

When told: "That's nothing to feel bad about. He hits everybody pretty good," McDermott brightened and nodded vigorously. "Yeah," he agreed. "Anyway, there's one batter in every league who hits you like he owns you, and it's better it should be a guy like him.'

Even DiMaggio couldn't get the kid out of there on his next try. Before a howling mob of 60,252 at Yankee Stadium, Mac stopped an 11-game Red Sox losing streak by beating the Yankees, 4-2. He held the Bombers to four hits, struck out seven,





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and won even though he walked eight men. It was a game the Red Sox had to win to stay in the pennant fight.

He lost a tough 1-0 decision to Mike Garcia of Cleveland, another rookie, on the night of July 18. He licked the White Sox, 11-2, at Boston on the night of July 26. He shut out Cleveland, 3-0, on Sunday, giving up eight hits, walking three, and July 31, striking out seven. Then, the first week in August pitching against the Senators, he hurt his shoulder.

"I started to throw a fast ball," he says, "and I caught my spikes on the mound. I was off balance, but I had to throw the ball anyway. I felt something give."

That little twist of his shoulder did something that all the hitters of the Yankees, Indians and the other clubs in the league couldn't do. It put him out of business for the rest of the season. The Red Sox did not wish to ruin his future so they rested him until September 26. That day, he started against the Yankees in New York, before 66,156 witnesses, but he was yanked in the fourth inning after giving up a single and walking two hitters. He pitched no more in 1949 and the Red Sox lost the American League pennant by one game.

McDermott is sure his shoulder won't trouble him any more. And he's hungry for another chance to prove he can get them out in the American League.

He spent the winter helping out on the recreation staff at Grossinger's Hotel in the Catskill Mountains, where the food is the kind you don't expect to get this side of heaven. It's barely possible that he added a pound or two of flesh.

Mac is the kind of a guy whose relatives always look at him, cluck worriedly, and say, "He must have a tapeworm." That's because he's a non-stop eater, a growing boy who will eat a full course meal at one o'clock and be rooting around the kitchen making a sandwich at two. Nothing heavy, you understand. Just a snack to tide him over. Maybe some of that ham - and, hey, what's that, potato salad?

Already McDermott may have done more than any other man to draw bobbysoxers to baseball games. In a way, he has the same appeal as crooner Frank Sinatra, who set the style in underfed, boyish scarecrows that inspire mixed yearnings of mothering and loving in young, feminine hearts. Personally, McDermott plays each girl against the field. That is not to say he hates women. Certainly he doesn't maintain one of the fanciest wardrobes in major-league baseball just so he can go to the movies with Red Sox catcher Birdie Tebbetts. But McDermott is unengaged, even though his big grin and fast chatter are catnip to the younger ladies.

Too young to see war service, Mc-Dermott was a mere high school kid in 1945 when he first began to attract attention as a coming ballplayer. Although he looks like a hayseed right out of the tall corn, he's a city lad. He was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, August 29, 1928, and was raised mostly in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in full view of New York's skyscrapers across the bay.

General Motors transferred his father to its Linden, New Jersey, plant when Maurice was eight, and the family home



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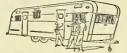
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was established in nearby Elizabeth.

Like so many promising young pitchers,.. Maurice had a father who helped him to a baseball education in very early boyhood. Maurice, Sr., had been a good ballplayer. He had pitched for the Chattanooga Lookouts and was a teammate of Lou Gehrig at Hartford.

"Marriage," says Maurice, Jr., "ended Dad's professional baseball career - except for semi-pro." Father took son along when he pitched week-end semi-pro and told him the fine points of the game.

And, like Bobby Feller's dad, Mc-Dermott's father repeatedly told the youngster that some day he would be a major league ballplayer.

In the late grades at St. Mary's Grammar School in Elizabeth, Mac played first base on the school team and showed a lot of ability as a hitter. His first high school was St. Mary's, where: "The coach saw I could throw the ball faster than the other guys, so he told me I was a pitcher. I been tryin' to be one ever since.'

In his second year of high school, Mc-Dermott changed to St. Patrick's High. He got better and better.

Like many ambitious young ballplayers, McDermott played some ball with local non-school teams. It was while he was pitching for the Garwood Question Marks

of Elizabeth, that a Red Sox scout named Bill McCarran saw him.

McCarran asked Mac to show his stuff at a Red Sox tryout camp in nearby Union City, New Jersey. Then, on Mc-Carran's recommendation, the Sox gave the skinny youngster a \$5,000 bonus for signing a Boston contract. He was still in high school, but a technicality like that meant nothing before Commissioner Happy Chandler cracked down on the signing of schoolboys.

Shortly thereafter, McDermott pitched a no-hit, no-run game for St. Patrick's against his old school, St. Mary's. Then there was hell to pay. One disgruntled St. Mary's partisan, aware that Mac had made a deal with the Red Sox, sounded off in a letter to the editor of the local paper. Thus exposed as a "pro," Mac was declared ineligible for school athletics.

The inactivity was more than McDermott could stand. He quit school two months before his scheduled graduation and reported to the Red Sox for duty. Thus began his career at Scranton.

Now, still very much a boy at 21, Maurice McDermott, with his blinding erratic fireball, is the pre-season choice as the one man most likely to tip the balance one way or the other in the fight for the 1950 American League pennant. THE END

Sound Off!

(Continued from page 8)

Securing equipment for the boys is hard. Managers think the materials should be as good as those that the "big league" players use, but in recent years this equipment has been hard to obtain. There is the worry of selling enough season tickets to help meet the expenses. Parks for all games must be reserved.

When it comes time to choose the team of sixteen boys from the forty who have tried out, that too, is hard.

Team chosen. Now the boys must work out regularly and the manager must be on hand.

Yes, the managers of these teams really deserve a hand, so why don't all you Legionnaires give them one at your next meeting? Jean Barnett

Missouri Hall Christian College Columbia, Mo.

BUYING A USED CAR

I have just read Ray Sherman's article Buying a Used Car in the February magazine. I am very happy to see there is one writer that doesn't have a distorted view of the used car business. I have seen numerous articles on this subject, but this is the first one I have read that gives a true picture. Mr. Sherman's advice to the purchaser is sound; and I sincerely hope all of the automobile buyers in America can read it. J. B. Hunt

Borger, Texas

THEY LIKED IT

I think Mr. Hank (Henry G. Felsen) should get a great big A for the wonderful article in the February issue What Are They Doing to the Female Sex?

If the American women keep on, keeping up with the clothes and styles those hair-brained designers dream up, I am afraid several of our American males are going back to the jungles or elsewhere as a refuge from these nightmare looking creatures who used to be called "American Women." Annie L. Hemingway

Hinton, Okla.

1950 orchids to Henry G. Felsen on his article - What Are They Doing to the Female Sex?

Let's hear from you again, Mr. Felsen. Mimi Duplantis Houma, La.

REDS IN MOVIES

I know that, despite the exposure of the House Un-American Activities Committee, the movie industry is still giving choice spots in top movies to reds and party liners. I'm sure that most Legionnaires like myself would stay away from such films if we had a checklist to go by. Can you tell me where I can get a line on commie minded movie stars?

> Esther B. Wanner Germantown, Pa.

The Cinema Educational Guild, Inc. P. O. Box 8655, Cole Branch, Hollywood 46, Cal., can probably be of assistance. Their book, Red Treason in Hollywood, contains a list of movie people who have been identified with front organizations and you can obtain a copy for a dollar. However, there's more to the book than a list of names. It describes how commies have made suckers out of the movie industry and the people who support it.



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The Missouri Reports

(Continued from page 28)

set that as the date for his next attempt.

The dredges and divers went back to the slow, slugging battle with the sand, and the Missouri's crew turned to the backbreaking job of lightening ship. Eventually they unloaded 12,000 tons -24,000,000 pounds - of food, ammunition, water, fuel and other stores, much of it manhandled from below to the main deck and then lowered overside in slings to waiting lighters.

During their 15 days on the sand bar, the Big Mo's bluejackets drew sea pay and rotated shore liberty. But surprisingly, there were few fights in the brawling Norfolk honkytonks when the Missouri men hit the beach. Perhaps not so surprising, however, because their skipper sent each party ashore with a plea to stay out of trouble, to ignore the rough hazing they were bound to take from other ships' crews.

Whatever restraint they showed, he more than matched it. By the book, Capt. Brown may have been accountable for landing the Missouri and the Navy on the spot at a time particularly inopportune in the light of the still smoldering unification fight. But by the same token, it was this tall, spare seaman who turned the tide of ridicule and gave dignity to what might have been the comic-opera battle of Hampton Roads.

Throughout his ship's 15 days in the spotlight of national publicity, Capt. Brown remained aboard, most of the time pacing sleepless on his bridge, aiding the salvage operation and directing routine training exercises for his crew. Probably his toughest moment came when he first faced a battery of reporters and photographers on his stranded vessel. He was a man expecting to be pilloried, and resigned to it. But although plainly close to the breaking point, he stood up under a barrage of searching questions with a calm "no excuses" air that did as much to silence the hostile critics as did the actual refloating of the Missouri.



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Once, when the questioning got down to how the Big Mo grounded in broad daylight in the heart of the world's greatest naval base, his composure faltered. His eyes filled and his voice choked up.

"Gentlemen," he said haltingly, "I can assure you that the ship did not run aground through carelessness."

Ashore, meanwhile, the Navy was being bombarded with suggestions, theories and offers of help from ex-navy men and just plain interested citizens. At first, some were jeering, sneering gags: paint the Missouri a bright orange color and leave her in Hampton Roads as a target for Air Force bombers; seal her into the bay with concrete and call her "Fort Mo." One cruel joker sent the Missouri's captain an oar and suggested he paddle her off the sand bar.

But as the pile of letters mounted, it became apparent that the overwhelming majority were friendly, well-meaning. Many of the suggestions were practical ideas that already were being tried or had been considered and discarded in favor of better ones. The Navy painstakingly thanked each writer.

Capt. Brown was close to nervous and physical exhaustion, under a doctor's care, but still on his feet when the big push to free the Missouri began on Jan. 31. Two days earlier, salvage crews had set off a 75-pound TNT charge in the sand on either side of the ship in an effort to break the suction and ease the tugs' job. The blasts settled the warship another halfinch, increasing her buoyancy infinitesimally, but the sandy suction held fast.

On the 30th, Adms. Smith and Wallen pulled out a new bag of tricks. The ship's own beaching gear was brought into the fight. It consisted of nine heavy anchors strung out on steel hawsers from the battleship's stern and buried deep in the sand; diesel-operated winches aboard were lined up to haul in on the anchor cables in conjunction with the tug drag and pulled the Big Mo out by her own bootstraps.

The Jan. 31 attempt officially was labeled

as a rehearsal, with another trial run set for the following day to get the tug and winch crews working smoothly for the real show on the Feb. 2 flood tide. But the admirals crossed their fingers and prayed for a northeaster to sweep in off the ocean and pile up a tide high enough to refloat the Missouri on their first try.

It didn't come off. The wind shifted to the southwest, fog settled over the bay, a cable snapped at a critical time, and after two hours of tugging and hauling the battleship remained motionless as a rock. Try number four was abandoned.

Then their luck changed. The wind veered back to the northeast, ripping across the broad harbor in 25-mile-anhour gusts that swept the fog away and rolled up the flood tide the Missouri had been waiting for.

Long before daybreak on Feb. 1, a flotilla of tugs and salvage craft moved out into the roads, jammed with bone-weary men ready for another try. The floodlighted decks of the Missouri came alive with scurrying men, loud-speakers blasted out a seeming bedlam of orders, and the groaning winches began picking up the slack on the beaching gear.

Six heavy duty tugs teamed up in tandem groups of three chugged into line for a direct pull-out, long cables trailing back through the water to the Missouri's stern. This time the salvage experts had a new wrinkle; three tugs hitched up to the battlewagon's bow, which had been lightened by another 700 tons during the night, and pulled out to starboard, while five others nudged against the ship's massive steel sides. Slowly the bow tugs began straining out to starboard in a whipsawing surge, while the pulling tugs off the stern marked time. As the bow hawsers came taut, a murmur ran along the Missouri's deck. The stranded monster was shifting in her sandy cradle. Her bow swung 20 degrees to starboard. Then the bow tugs shifted to port and whipsawed her back in that direction.

The suction was broken, and from the Missouri's bridge Adm. Smith signaled the

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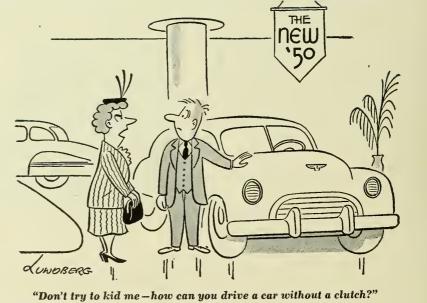


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At that moment, hard luck took one more swipe at the Mighty Mo and missed her by the narrowest of margins. The dredged-out channal, barely 120 feet wide, left only six feet of steerage way on either side of the ship as she floated free, and her stern started to skid over to the right. Three tugs stuck their rugged snouts in the way just in time to keep her from grounding again.

Adm. Smith grinned a big grin, snapped out an order, and the Missouri's battle ensign trailed slowly up to the forepeak and whipped out in the morning breeze. The ship's band, huddled atop a gun turret, struck up Anchor's Aweigh, switched to the Missouri Waltz, and finally to There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight.

To the rest of the fleet, the battlewagon's radio crackled out a jubilant message:

"The Missouri reports for duty."

Hundreds of sightseeing boats scattered as the shepherding tugs nuzzled the big ship into deep water and down past the line of warships berthed in Norfolk Navy Base, on her way to the Portsmouth dry dock.

Pennants flapping proudly and her massive 16-inch rifles reaching for the sky, the Mighty Mo swung close by the stern of the aircraft carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt, aboard whose hangar deck Adm. William H. P. Blandy was turning over his Atlantic Fleet Command and retiring from service.

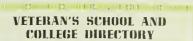
The Roosevelt's five-inchers banged out a 17-gun salute as the Missouri trailed by.

On the battleship's bridge, Capt. Brown came as close to smiling as he had in 15 long days.

"It's a great day," he said. THE END

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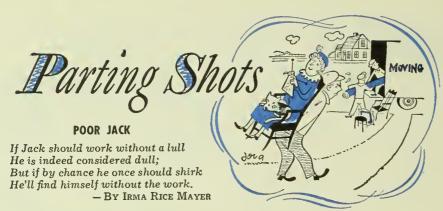
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Today.

Name
Sure.
Address.
Ver?



THE HONEYMOON IS OVER

A husband and wife had an argument and the husband left the house in a huff. Shortly after, a caller asked where her husband might be found. The wife replied that he had gone fishing.

"Just walk down to the bridge," she said caustically, "and look around until you find a pole with a worm on each end."

- By F. G. KERNAN

THE LAST LAUGH

He who laughs last At the story narrator, Intended to tell The same story later. - By Francis Gerard

ALL IS LOST

The altar is a place where a bachelor loses control of himself.

- By Dan Bennett

THE LUCK OF THE IRISH

Shortly before shipping overseas, I stopped into a high class barber shop for a haircut and shave. While waiting my turn, a big, burly master sergeant climbed into one of the chairs and whipped out a wicked looking knife.

"The name's O'Halloran," he announced to the surprised barber. "I'm tough, but I can't stand the sight of blood. So whatever you do, don't cut me. At the first sight of blood I'll shove this knife in your ribs. Understand?"

The barber nodded and began to wield the razor. Finally the job was finished. O'Halloran surveyed himself in the mirror and turned to the barber with a smile. "It's sure your lucky day, Mac. I'd have knifed you for sure if you had nicked me."

lucky day, sergeant. It's yours. I made up my mind when you sat down that if I saw the least bit of blood, I'd slit your throat from ear to ear.'

- BY STANLEY J. MEYER

HOUSEHOLD HINT

The upholstered cushions Which cradle your frame Will keep their shape longer If you do the same.

- By Helen Gorn Sutin

NOMENCLATURE OF THE RIFLE

(For Recruits)

BARREL: What the inspecting officer always finds dirty when he looks through it. BUTT: The end that you drop on the little toe of your right foot when you attempt to execute the command: "Order Arms. CHAMBER: The place where you find

The barber shook his head. "It's not my

THANKSGIVING TURKEY

A young wife made a specialty of serving up meals with as many leftovers as possible. One night the menu consisted entirely of leftovers which she had daintily prepared with many clever attempts at camouflage. The moment her husband sat down he began to fill his plate.

the most cosmoline to clean out when a

SIGHTS: What you always blame if you happen to get a poor score on the firing

SLING: A leather strap which makes it possible to carry your rifle along on a 20-mile hike when you are already loaded

TRIGGER GUARD: The thing that digs

into your shoulder when you are march-

GOLD DIGGER

And all must pass

The asset test.

TRUTH WILL OUT

wrote in his log, "Mate was drunk today."

When the mate sobered up, he was ter-

ribly chagrined and angry. He pleaded

with the captain to strike out the record.

before," he declared, "and I give you my

solemn oath that I will never drink again!"

"In this log," he warned, "we write the

The next week the mate kept the log,

and in it he wrote, "Captain was sober

REIGN OF ERROR

Confusion will reign and won't decline,

'Til you get a toothbrush not like mine.

But the captain was adamant.

exact truth.'

today."

"I have never been drunk in my life

The captain of a merchant vessel once

She picks the best,

- By Roy K. KLINE

- By Frank Kermit

- By Phil Cloud

- By ELIZABETH SAWYER

ing in close-order drill or in parade.

In dating men

rifle is issued to you.

down with other equipment.

"Honey," she said, "aren't you going to ask a blessing first?"

"My dear wife," he replied, "if you will point out a single article here which hasn't been blessed before, I'll see what a little praying can do for it.'

- BY PAUL DUNNE

GI STYLE

A laundry is a place that sends back your buttons with different shirts sewed on them. - By T. J. McInerney



Though there is no cop behind me, I dare not attempt to speed; Six-year Bobby here beside me Has just learned how to read. - RUTH CHRISTIANSEN

TRICKED

His heart did a trick As she sat upon his knee. And he broke out in a sweat For she was a bumble bee. - BY DENNIS L. STEWART



"In the good old days, when this cellar was a nice, dirty coal bin, I used to come home and relax."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Spring says GREYHOUND!



When Springtime flashes its green GO signal—then it's time to get out and get going—by Greyhound! Whether you plan trips for business, for shopping, shows, or gay weekends, go Greyhound in SuperCoach

comfort! If you're headed for vacation fun—go Greyhound for relaxed sightseeing all the way! If your destination is that pleasant little home town, go Greyhound on convenient, time-saving schedules.





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PERMANENTFILE

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE jamels agree with my throat

say these famous 20-GAME WINNERS OF BASEBALL



BOSTON RED SOX (WON 25)

Top winner in the major leagues last season, lefthander Mel Parnell made the Camel 30-day mildness test, and reports: "Camels agree with my throat. And they're a cool, mild, great-tasting smoke. It will always be Camels for me-for keeps!"





VIC RASCHI

NEW YORK YANKEES (WON 21)

The "Big Wheel" of the World Champions, Vic Raschi, smokes Camels because, "Camel mildness agrees with my throat. There's nothing so cheering as a Camel-that Camel flavor hits the spot with me."



VARD POLLET ST. LOUIS CARDINALS (WON 20)

"The throat specialists" findings in the 30-day test don't surprise me," says this veteran southpaw. "I've smoked Camels for many years. I know they're mild, and they're always right for my throat. Camels don't tire my taste -they have the rich, full flavor I like."

BOB LEMO

CLEVELAND INDIANS (WON 22)

"The 30-day test really opened my eyes," says Bob, only major league hurler to win 20 or more games in each of the past two seasons. "Camels have a mildness all their own and they're welcome to my throat."



R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Winston-Salem, N. C.

NOTED THROAT SPECIALISTS REPORT ON 30-DAY TEST OF CAMEL SMOKERS ...

Not one single case of throat irritation

due to smoking CAMELS

Yes, these were the findings of noted throot specialists after a total of 2,470 weekly examinations of the throats of hundreds of men and women who smoked Comels—and only Camels—for 30 consecutive days.